No sabotage, no jellyfish but faulty system

STORY ON PAGE A2

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KUMONTRA BANAT NA... ABANGAN ANG SUSUNOD NA KABANATA

WHAT'S INSIDE

- **Diamondbacks stun Yankees, win World Series in 7th game** SPORTS / A18
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Badoy 'often absent, liar, incompetent'

Garchitorena raised concerns in letter to SC

BY VOLT CONTRERAS

ABSENTEEISM, propensity to lie about his whereabouts, and doubts about his capacity to handle cases are among the issues raised against Sandiganbayan Associate Justice Anacleto Badoy Jr. by his colleagues, according to Presiding Justice Francis Garchitorena.

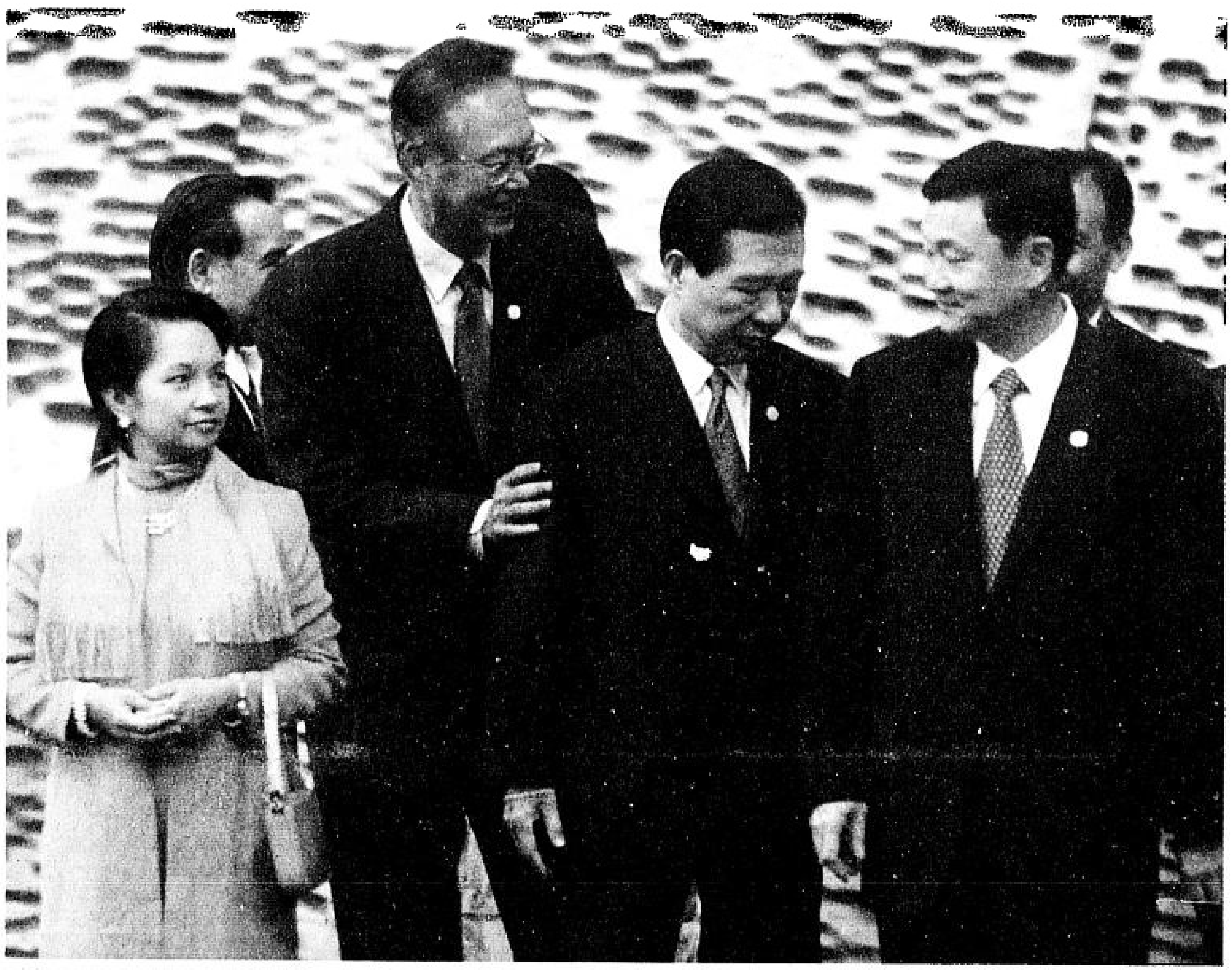
Garchitorena made this disclosure a day after the chair of the Sandiganbayan's third division handling the plunder case against deposed President Joseph Estrada accused Garchitorena of pressuring him to step down from his post.

In radio interviews, Garchitorena raised other issues against Badoy, like his request last month for the Supreme Court to provide additional personnel although his office was already "overstaffed."

"It is common knowledge among members of the Court, and this has been specifically confirmed by his fellow co-division members . . . that Justice Badoy hardly does any work as chairman or member of the division." Garchitorena wrote Chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr. on Oct. 11 after Badoy requested additional legal researchers, an executive assistant and a stenographer to help him while he was hearing the plunder and other cases pending before his sala.

"He is often absent or comes in very late in the afternoon, often after office hours. In other instances he called to ask if there was anything important before deciding to come to office,

BADOY/ A14



POSITIONING for a photo op, President Macapagal waits for other leaders attending the 7th Asean Summit meeting to find their places, from left: Singapore Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong, South Korean President Kim Dae-jung and Thailand Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra. AFP

Erap camp blamed for oust-Badoy maneuvers

BY NESTOR P. BURGOS JR. AND JHUNNEX NAPALLACAN
PDI Visayas Bureau

THE MOVES to oust Associate Justice Anacleto Badoy Jr. as chair of the Sandiganbayan's third division are part of a four-step plan aimed at absolving President Joseph Estrada, a militant group said yesterday.

"It is part of a well-coordinated and systematic campaign to derail the plunder case (against Estrada)," said Teodoro Casiño, national secretary general of the Bagong Alyansang Makabayan.

Casiño disclosed the alleged plot to derail the plunder case against Estrada a day after Badoy disclosed that Sandiganbayan Presiding Justice Francis Garchitorena had tried to "pressure" him to step down from his post.

As head of the first division, Garchitorena handles the first perjury case against Estrada as well as the graft charges.

While Badoy's division handles the more serious plunder case, illegal use of alias and the second perjury case.

The rare public spat between two justices demonstrates tension surrounding Estrada's unprecedented corruption cases.

ERAP/ A14

Estradas file new complaint against Badoy

BY VOLT CONTRERAS

SANDIGANBAYAN Associate Justice Anacleto Badoy may have found a new detractor in Presiding Justice Francis Garchitorena, but his biggest headache yet is still courtesy of an old nemesis—the camp of deposed President Joseph Estrada.

Estrada, his son Jinggoy and his lawyers have filed an administrative complaint with the Supreme Court against Badoy and another justice handling the Estrada plunder case.

ESTRADAS/ A14

Asean airs concern over rising civilian casualties in Afghanistan

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN (via PLDT)—Asean leaders, wrapping up their annual summit in Brunei, yesterday voiced concern over the mounting civilian casualties in Afghanistan and unveiled plans to haul the region out of a severe economic downturn.

President Macapagal-Arroyo was satisfied that four of her proposals, including the holding of a multilateral anti-terrorism war games, were contained in the Asean Declaration on Joint Action to Counter Terrorism.

But Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad was disappointed the other Asean leaders refused to back his and Indonesian President Megawati Sukarnoputri's call for an end to the US bombing in Afghanistan.

Both Mahathir and Megawati had to make

ASEAN/ A14

Gringo: Mendoza extension rekindles coup talks

BY ROCKY NAZARENO AND CYNTHIA D. BALANA

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo's announcement that she might extend the term of the chief of the Philippine National Police has rekindled talks of a coup, Sen. Gregorio Honasan said yesterday.

Honasan, a member of the political opposition and a former rebel commander who mounted failed coups against the Aquino administration, told reporters that certain officers were disgruntled by authorities' alleged continued disregard for standards for promotion.

He said that from his frequent visits to police and military camps he learned that "there are noises, many are meeting," and that the staging of a coup was among the topics.

The President said Saturday that she had no intention of retiring PNP Director General Leandro Mendoza in March and that she might even extend his four-year term because of his good performance.

But Sen. Rodolfo Biazon yesterday said the President could not do this without a congressional declaration of a state of national emergency.

And Honasan warned that the practice "precipitated the formation of the RAM (Rebolusyonaryong Alyansang Makabayan) during the martial law regime."

"We have nothing against Mendoza, but the extension of his term is a departure from our intention to professionalize the PNP," he said.

According to Honasan, talks of a coup

GRINGO/ A15

INQUIRER
Garchitorena told to quit–Badoy

ERIK ARAZAS

DETAINED and deported, Bernie L. Crisosotomo describes a shock that left him speechless.

Sleepless ordeal in Seattle blamed on a 'bad joke'

BY TJ BURGONIO

"IT WAS a bad joke."

This was how pilot Bernie L. Crisostomo yesterday described the anonymous tip from Manila and received by the US Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) that claimed he and another Filipino pilot, Wel S. Come, were supposedly bioterrorists.

It was this tip that led to their detention and interrogation at the Seattle airport last week.

Crisostomo, 41, is a former Philippine Air Force pilot and a graduate of the Philippine Military Academy. He was the class historian of PMA "Matikas" Class of 1983.

SLEEPLESS/ A15

Nurse suffering from 'severe Stockholm Syndrome'–AFP

VAL HANDUMON

WIFE to Khadaffy Janjalani? Reina Malonzo, who converted to Islam, did not say for sure.

BY JULIE ALIPALA-INOT
PDI Mindanao Bureau

ZAMBOANGA CITY—A 23-year-old nurse taken hostage by the Abu Sayyaf on June 2 in a raid on the Don Jose Torres Memorial Hospital in Lamitan, Basilan, was yesterday presented to reporters by the military.

But it was not clear whether Reina Malonzo, who has since converted to Islam, was rescued by government forces or was freed by or had escaped from her captors.

Lt. Gen. Roy Cimatu, chief of the Armed Forces' Southern Command, refused to give details on Malonzo's freedom, "so as not to jeopardize our continuing military operations against the Abu Sayyaf to rescue the other hostages."

All he would say was that Malonzo was recovered around 6 p.m. on Nov. 1 at an undisclosed place.

Her head covered by a scarf, Malonzo was similarly tight-lipped. But she said that she had converted to the Muslim faith, and that her captors had treated her well.

NURSE/ A14

Malate workers think country, not just tips

BY NORMAN BORDADORA

'WATCH-YOUR-COUNTRY' BOYS NA KAMI!

SUDDENLY, Malate's watch-your-car boys think of country, not just turf. So do sidewalk vendors, *pedicab* drivers, parking attendants and other street workers. Or, so the Department of Tourism would like to believe after conducting Project M for some 515 street workers of Malate.

The DOT's Malate Renaissance project is a series of workshops that aims to "professionalize" street workers in the area to instill in them a "culture of tourism."

They attended Project M's Customer Service Training

MALATE/ A15

KAWAWANG DIKYA... NABINTANGAN!

Second FRONT PAGE

LUZON-WIDE BLACKOUT

No sabotage, no jellyfish

By Christine Gaylican

THE NATIONAL Power Corp. yesterday admitted its faulty system—not jellyfish or sabotage—caused the Luzon-wide blackout on Sunday.

Napocor president Jesus N. Alcordo said that after two coal-fired power plants—Sual and Calaca—broke down in sequence, Napocor's automatic transfer system, which should have distributed the electricity load to other power plants, also failed.

"We have a protective system which should have stabilized the power supply, but this (turned out to be) inadequate," Alcordo said.

"We therefore apologize to the public for the inconvenience we caused them. They deserve better service," he said at a news conference yesterday attended by other Napocor officials.

Power started to fail all over Luzon beginning at 4:45 p.m. Sunday when the Sual, Pangasinan coal-fired power plant, which is operated by Mirant Philippines Corp., an American firm, broke down after one of its boilers collapsed, Rolando Bacani, Napocor vice president for systems operations, said.

Another glitch

At almost the same time, Bacani said, the Calaca, Batangas power plant, which is operated by Napocor, suffered a technical glitch when its igniter fan meter was grounded.

The twin shutdowns cut off electricity over a wide area of Luzon, affecting some 35 million residents.

Napocor tried to normalize the system and restore power to the affected areas when a second "tripping" which affected four IPPs (independent power producers) occurred minutes later.

The four IPPs that shut down almost simultaneously were the Pagbilao coal-fired power plant (also operated by Mirant) in Pagbilao, Quezon; the Quezon Power Corp., also in Quezon; Unit II of the Sual power plant and the Leyte-Luzon interconnection.

Phil Vaughn, Sual plant manager, however, would not say what caused the power to trip, as the company was "still determining" its cause.

"Definitely it was not caused by jellyfish, and definitely there was no sabotage," was all Vaughn would say.

Loud hissing

Residents near the Sual power plant reported hearing a loud hissing noise followed by a billow of black smoke emanating from the plant's Unit I before the power was cut off.

Plant officials said the sound came from the equipment's electronic sensor that warns of technical problems in the plant.

A plant worker said the possibility of jellyfish clogging the power plant's cooling system was remote because a cooperative, composed of local residents, had been commissioned to clear the system of any obstructions.

In November last year, a Luzon-wide blackout was blamed on thousands of jellyfish, which had invaded the system clogging it.

Despite Vaughn's denial, jellyfish were still strongly suspected of clogging the plant's equipment by local residents because the sea creatures were abundant on the beaches of Lingayen Gulf on Sunday.

The Philippine National Police ruled out sabotage as a prelude to a coup d'etat as the reason behind the power outage.

Coup rumors

Metro Manila had been rife the past two weeks with coup rumors against the administration of President Macapagal-Arroyo.

PNP chief Director General Leandro Mendoza ordered Pangasinan provincial police chief Supt. Rodolfo Mendoza to go to Sual to investigate.

The PNP chief said Superintendent Mendoza reported back that a "purely mechanical problem" caused the Sual plant to trip.

"In the investigation, he (Superintendent Mendoza) learned that a mechanical disruption in tube No. 2 triggered the Sual shutdown," General Mendoza said.

The general reiterated the government's official line that there were no "external factors" like sabotage behind the power breakdown.

"No external factors were seen. We didn't see sabotage," Mendoza said.

Superintendent Mendoza reported that "it turns out this tube has failed many times in the past. This tube is a regular problem in the plant."

Power was restored in most of the Napocor coverage area by 1:30 a.m. Monday. *With Luige del Puerto and Yolanda Fuertes, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

No coup, no worry for Gloria

By D. Pazzibugan

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN (via PLDT)—President Macapagal-Arroyo went to bed here Sunday night happy and secure in the thought that "nothing untoward" had occurred back home when the power failed all over Luzon.

Up until 11:30 p.m. at her suite at the exclusive Empire Hotel and Country Club complex here, Ms Macapagal was being assured by government officials back in Manila that power was going to be fully restored real soon.

"*Naayos na* (It's been fixed)," she replied when asked about the blackout during an impromptu news briefing in her suite at the Waterfall hotel.

"It's (the) Sual (power plant) again. It'll be over in five hours they (officials) said," the President added.

She went on: "And it's good that nothing really untoward happened during the dark, so..." trailing off and chuckling, "That shows that things are okay."

Rumors of a coup flew Sunday when practically the entire island of Luzon was plunged into darkness just hours after Ms Macapagal left for Brunei to attend the 7th Asean Summit.

Malacañang had been denying for the past two weeks that a coup was in the offing, after rumors had surfaced that disgruntled members of the armed forces and of the opposition were planning to overthrow the government.

The Palace insisted there are no groups at present capable of mounting a coup.

Nevertheless, the Philippine National Police transferred to provincial assignments two police superintendents suspected of being involved in a coup plot.

In front of reporters here, Ms Macapagal called up Energy Secretary Vince Perez in Manila at about 11:30 p.m. Sunday.

Quoting Perez, Ms Macapagal said the blackout was caused by a "technical problem."

"No. sabotage," she said, smiling. "Absolutely nothing to worry about," she continued, smiling even more.

Hope for ₱125 wage hike dims

THE PROPONENTS of the controversial P125 wage hike yesterday admitted that President Macapagal-Arroyo's pronouncements had "weakened" the chances of getting a legislated wage increase.

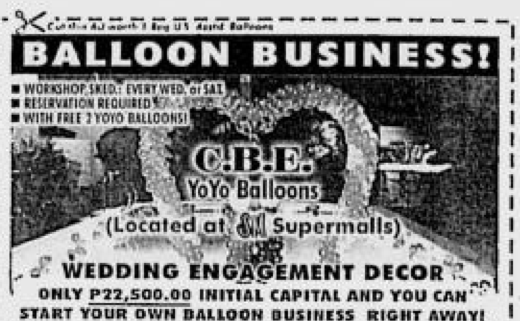
Bayan Muna Rep. Satur Ocampo said House Bill 2605 would be blocked by administration allies in Congress following the President's statement that the demand for a P125 wage hike was "anti-labor."

Ocampo noted that Sen. Juan Flavier has already withdrawn the counterpart bill in the Senate, while the House of Representatives was busy with the budget hearings.

"It was a setback to the labor sector," Ocampo said in an interview.

He said the "most optimistic" stage that HB 2605 could reach was to be included in the agenda for the resumption of the House sessions.

But his fellow Bayan Muna Rep. Crispin Beltran was still in fighting form as he challenged the President and her top brass to a debate on wage issue.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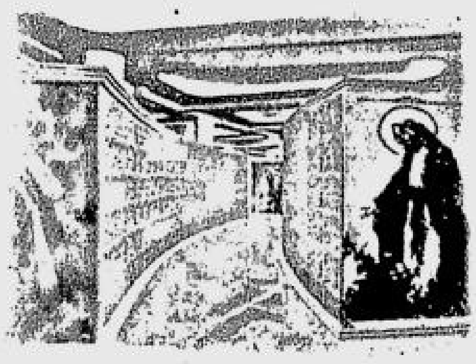
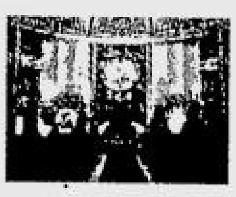
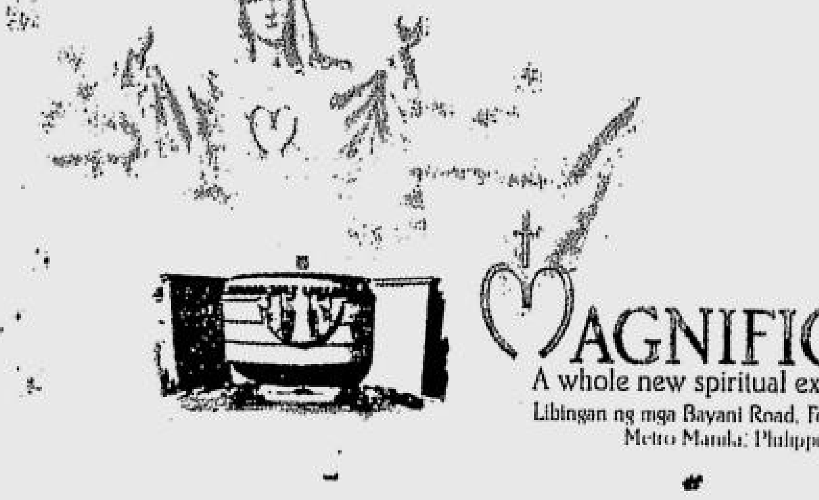
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Misuari warned on war threats

By Carlito Pablo

MALACAÑANG issued yesterday a veiled warning to erstwhile Moro National Liberation Front chair Nur Misuari in the face of his reported threat to resume the armed struggle for an independent Muslim Mindanao in tandem with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front.

"Obviously we will have to follow the Constitution and the law," said Palace spokesperson Rigoberto Tiglao, referring to Misuari's threat to re-arm in the face of the 1996 peace accord between the government and the MNLF.

"We hope not," Tiglao replied, when asked about the prospect of a new war of secession to be led by Misuari, founding chair of the MNLF.

Tiglao said the President would appeal to Misuari to honor the holding of elections on Nov. 26 in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, of which he is the current governor.

The administration is backing Farouk Hussin, head of the 15-man committee that replaced Misuari as MNLF chair, as its candidate for governor in the ARMM.

"Of course," Tiglao said, when asked if the government was prepared to throw the book at Misuari should he refuse to step down as ARMM governor.

Gloria's man

Tiglao said President Macapagal might even personally campaign for Hussin.

Malacañang is avoiding a direct confrontation with Misuari at this time after his followers made an open display of their firearms at the 5th National Bangsamoro Assembly held in Sulu over the weekend.

"We still have to confirm if he made any seditious remarks (during the assembly) by calling for an armed undertaking," Tiglao said.

Tiglao said Misuari's armed followers at the assembly might have been his bodyguards, which he is allowed to have under the 1996 peace agreement with the government.

Tiglao said the President would "gladly" talk to Misuari if he "asks for a meeting."

Unfazed

Southcom chief Gen. Roy Cimatu said yesterday he was unfazed by Misuari's reported threat to link up with the MILF and resume the fight for an independent Mindanao.

Cimatu warned Misuari that any armed struggle to secede from the government would not be tolerated by the military.

"Don't dare the Armed Forces of the Philippines," Cimatu said.

Misuari had told reporters in Sulu that he was being urged by some Muslim countries to unite with the MILF and soon.

He told his 1,000-strong armed followers and others who attended the Bangsamoro assembly in Silangkan, Jolo that he was just waiting for an invitation from the MILF to rejoin the struggle.

"If they (MILF) will try to convince us to fight for independence, then I will go back to the (assembly) just like that," he said, snapping his fingers.

Cimatu said he would like to believe Misuari, who was recently removed from the chairmanship of the MNLF in a move engineered in part by the national government, was not serious in his statements.

AFP prepared

In any event, Cimatu said, the AFP was prepared to counter any such move by Misuari.

During the assembly, Misuari said any Muslim reunification would not include the Abu Sayyaf, the rebel-cum-terrorist group that has made kidnapping for ransom its main activity.

"How can we allow the Abu Sayyaf to join us when what they are doing is against Islamic law?" he said.

Misuari said he has consulted Islamic scholars about the Abu Sayyaf, but none of them could justify the group's activities.

"Is there anything Shariah, in the Qur'an, that can justify this kidnapping for ransom and beheading? The scholars said there was none, that this was invented by people hostile to Islam who are making it appear that this is justified in the Islamic religion, but it's not," he said.

Maguindanao Rep. Didagen Dilangalen said the government is in a bind with Misuari.

Dilangalen said the government erred when it interfered in the "internal problems" of the MNLF.

Warning on Nur

In a phone interview, Dilangalen said he had warned the administration that its intervention in the leadership issue of the MNLF would "create a problem... create a monster."

With Misuari no longer the recognized leader of the MNLF, he is off the hook as far as his commitment to the government is concerned, Dilangalen said, he is free to go for an independent Muslim Mindanao.

Two other Mindanao congressmen, Surigao del Norte Rep. Ace Barbers and Zamboanga City Rep. Celso Lobregat, expressed opposing views on what the government should do about Misuari.

Barbers said the government should use Misuari to help the peace process along in Mindanao.

"Since his leadership is still recognized by some in Mindanao, the government should recognize him as someone who could help the peace process," he said. *With Christine O. Avendaño and Julie Alipala-Inot and Alexander M. Young, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

AILING KNEES, FAILING EYES

Erap can be treated here–Dayrit

By Armand Nocum
and Volt Contreras

HEALTH Secretary Manuel Dayrit yesterday said there might be no need for ousted President Joseph Estrada to go abroad to have his eyes or knees operated on.

In a press briefing, he said country has good medical facilities with state-of-the-art equipment to cure Estrada's ills.

"As far as capability to do joint surgery is concerned, I think we've got pretty good surgeons here," Dayrit said when asked to comment on Estrada's request that he be allowed to leave for the US to secure medical help for his ailing knees.

Although the local medical system has the capability to operate on the ailing ex-president, Dayrit noted "there are people who prefer to be treated abroad."

But he declined to comment further on Estrada's case until he determines the latter's true sickness.

"I do not know the nuances of his case, so I'd rather not be definitive in my statements. I really don't know what he needs," he said.

Ombudsman Aniano Desierto, in opposing Estrada's desire to seek treatment abroad, said the former president is suffering from ailments associated with advancing age.

Yesterday, the deposed president insisted that he must undergo a "long overdue" knee surgery in the US, while pledging that he will not escape from his criminal cases here.

The government "has nothing to fear that I will not come back," he said, stressing that had he wanted to flee the country, he would have done so long ago when Justice Secretary Hernando Perez offered to allow him to go "to any country of my choice."

As to his eye surgery, Estrada said it could now be performed locally since his Boston-based physician has already opened an eye clinic here.

But he said his arthritic knees "which are both deteriorating, require special equipment not available here."

The new operation plus the ensuing therapy will only take less than a month he said.

Feast of Ramadan a national holiday

By Carlito Pablo

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo has declared as a special non-working holiday throughout the country this year the "Eid-ul-Fitre," or the day the Muslims end their month-long fasting of Ramadan.

President Macapagal issued Proclamation No. 120 decreeing the Islamic "festival of fast breaking" as nationwide holiday for the first time in the country's history.

The President said having such a holiday to commemorate the Eid-ul-Fitre, also known as the Feast of Ramadan, will "further promote cultural understanding and integration."

"Our fellow Muslims should have the full opportunity to properly observe and celebrate this important day," Ms Macapagal said.

But Palace spokesperson Rigoberto Tiglao said this holiday will not affect military operations against the extremist Abu Sayyaf group.

"We don't consider them as an Islamic group. We consider them as a criminal bandit group which has nothing to do with Islam," Tiglao said.

Cops hunt rice trader's kidnappers

COTABATO CITY—Police have launched a province-wide manhunt against the abductors of a woman rice trader in Libungan, North Cotabato.

This as Martin Martin, the father of 33-year-old kidnap victim Martina Martin, appealed to her captors to free the victim as the family could not afford to pay ransom.

"We appeal to your kind heart, please free my daughter, we are not moneyed as you thought us to be," the elder Martin said.

Martina, the manager of the family-owned rice mill in Libungan public market, was seized by four gunmen Sunday afternoon. She was the third kidnap victim in Libungan in the past years.

Insp. Rufino Inot, Libungan police chief, said the suspects, using a blue car, brought the victim to Liguasan marsh via Barangay Central Labas in Midsayap, also in North Cotabato. *Edwin O. Fernandez, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

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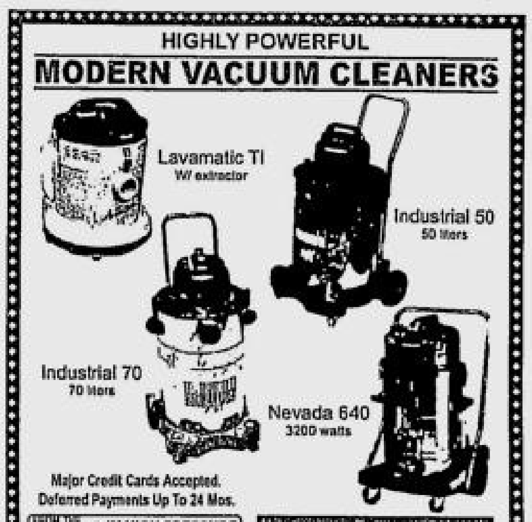

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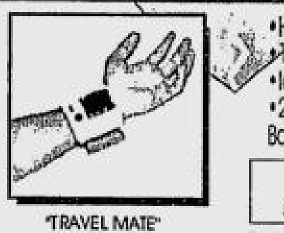

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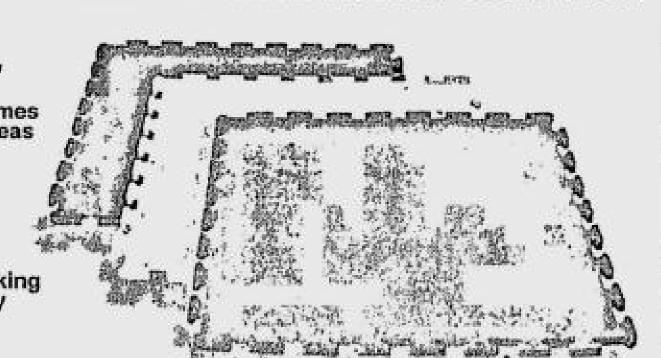

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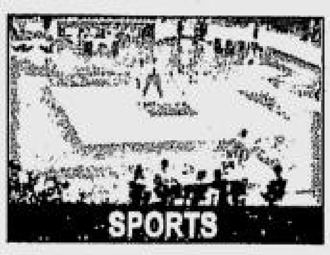
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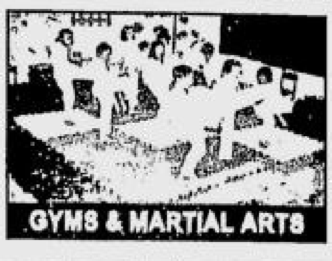
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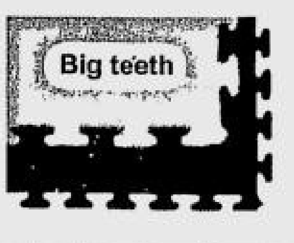

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An Open Letter to the Filipino People

We, the Filipino Muslims in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) urgently appeal to all our Filipino brethren to help us send this message to the mother of our country, President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo.

- ***The forthcoming ARMM elections is a purely local issue as decreed by the Organic Act creating the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao***
- ***The candidates for the various elective positions have sworn their allegiance to the country and the national leadership.***

In view of these, our appeal to President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo is to allow the Filipino Muslims in the provinces of Basilan, Sulu, Tawi-Tawi, Maguindanao, Lanao del Sur and the city of Marawi to freely express their will and choose their leaders independently of Manila's influence.

We further appeal to President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo to declare the entire ARMM as a free zone and institute a hands-off policy by the national government.

Lastly, we appeal to President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo to forsake the practice of the past where coercion, intimidation and indiscriminate use of massive national government resources subverted the will of the people in Muslim Mindanao.

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Why Gloria 'ditched' Mike in Brunei visit

By Dona Z. Pazzibugan

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN (via PLDT)—No, President Macapagal-Arroyo was not following the controversial advice to "ditch" the First Gentleman when she left him behind on her trip to Brunei.

First Gentleman Mike Arroyo did not come simply because there would be nothing for him to do here, said the President, who is attending the two-day 7th Asean Summit hosted by the sultanate.

Ms Macapagal said the tight summit schedule did not provide for any programs for the spouses of the 10 heads of state in attendance.

This is why most of the leaders' spouses did not bother to come, either, she said.

Last week, former Budget Secretary Salvador Enriquez chided Ms Macapagal and advised her to drop "all her baggage" which had been weighing down her administration.

The "baggage" was believed to include the First Gentleman who has been embroiled in several controversies since Ms Macapagal assumed the presidency.

The spouses who did come to Brunei were expected to attend the formal dinner tendered by Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah last night at the Royal Lounge of the International Convention Center.

Bolkiah hosted the dinner for the 10 Asean leaders and their dialogue partners—Japan, China and South Korea—their spouses and all the delegates.

If he came, Mr. Arroyo would have been the only male spouse in attendance. Indonesian President Megawati Sukarnoputri also came without her husband.

This was the first time since she assumed office that Ms Macapagal traveled overseas without her husband. Protocol demands that the First Gentleman accompany the President on all her foreign trips.

Ms Macapagal's schedule since arriving here Sunday afternoon has been tight.

The Asean leaders had a working dinner that lasted until 10 p.m. on Sunday, during which they finalized the declaration on terrorism they issued yesterday during the actual summit.

CLAIMANTS' NEW TACK

Ad asks Marcoses to pay up

By Donna S. Cueto

AFTER trying, unsuccessfully so far, to get the Marcoses to pay compensation for martial law victims for six years, the lawyers for the human rights class plaintiffs are trying a different tactic—pressuring the Marcoses to pay up through newspaper ads.

The lawyers of the human rights claimants started yesterday a "series of newspaper ads" to "educate the public on their plight."

This way, the public would be made to understand why there is a need for the Marcoses to compensate the 9,539 victims of torture, summary executions or disappearance during the martial law regime, explained lawyer Rod Domingo Jr., Filipino co-counsel of American lead counsel Robert Swift.

The human rights victims obtained a $2 billion judgment against the Marcos estate in 1995 in the US court. The judgment came about after nine years of litigation.

"Since then (1995), the Marcoses have played a game of hide and seek, refusing to identify the assets of the former dictator so that the judgment could be paid," Swift said in a statement.

"The Marcoses continue to lead a life of luxury while the victims and their family members go begging," he said.

The full-page ad, which came out in a newspaper, featured statements of some of the witnesses to these atrocities, as well as a picture of a torture victim, Buenaventura Tampipi, whose head was punctured with a four-inch nail.

"The judgment in favor of the 9,539 victims remain unpaid even though about $650 million of Marcos money sits in an escrow account and the Marcos family lives in luxury. Many victims are dead and their families impoverished. Civil societies compensate their victims of human rights abuses. When will the victims of Marcos receive their due?" a part of the ad said.

"Demand compensation for all victims and their families now," it added.

Swift said it was "essential that the Philippine people know and remember the other brutality of the Marcos dictatorship."

"It is equally important that the public understand why the victims must be compensated; and to understand the complicity of the Philippine government and its courts in preventing payment," Swift said.

The Presidential Commission on Good Government has proposed a bill in Congress that would allow the government to set aside $200 million as compensation for human rights victims.

It asked Congress to exempt the amount to be taken from the $659 million escrow fund from the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program law.

Under the present law, recovered amounts from the Marcos ill-gotten wealth should go directly to CARP.

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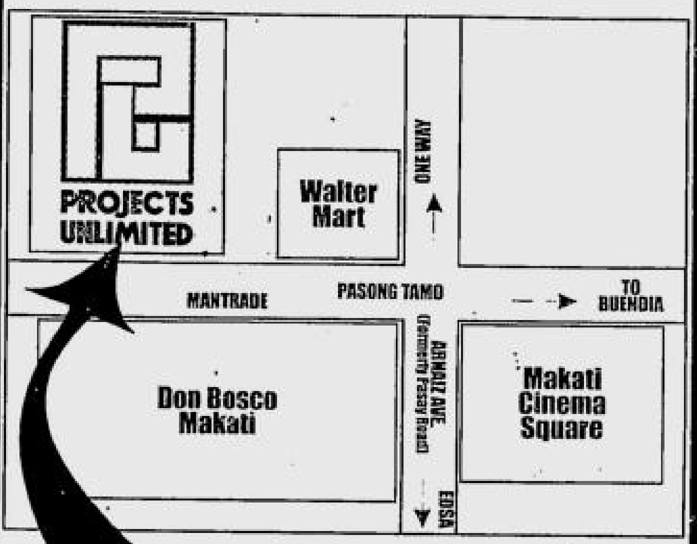

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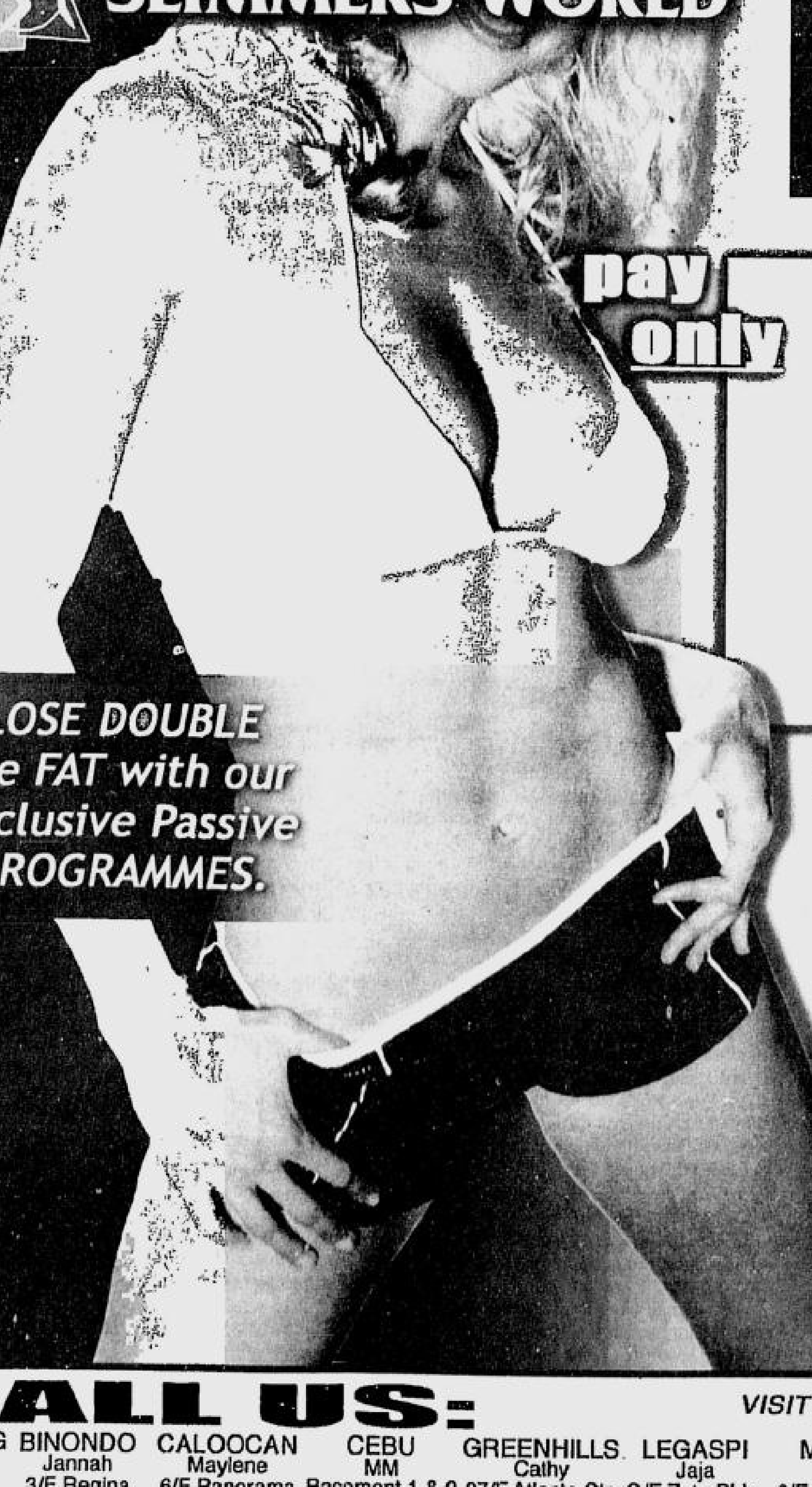

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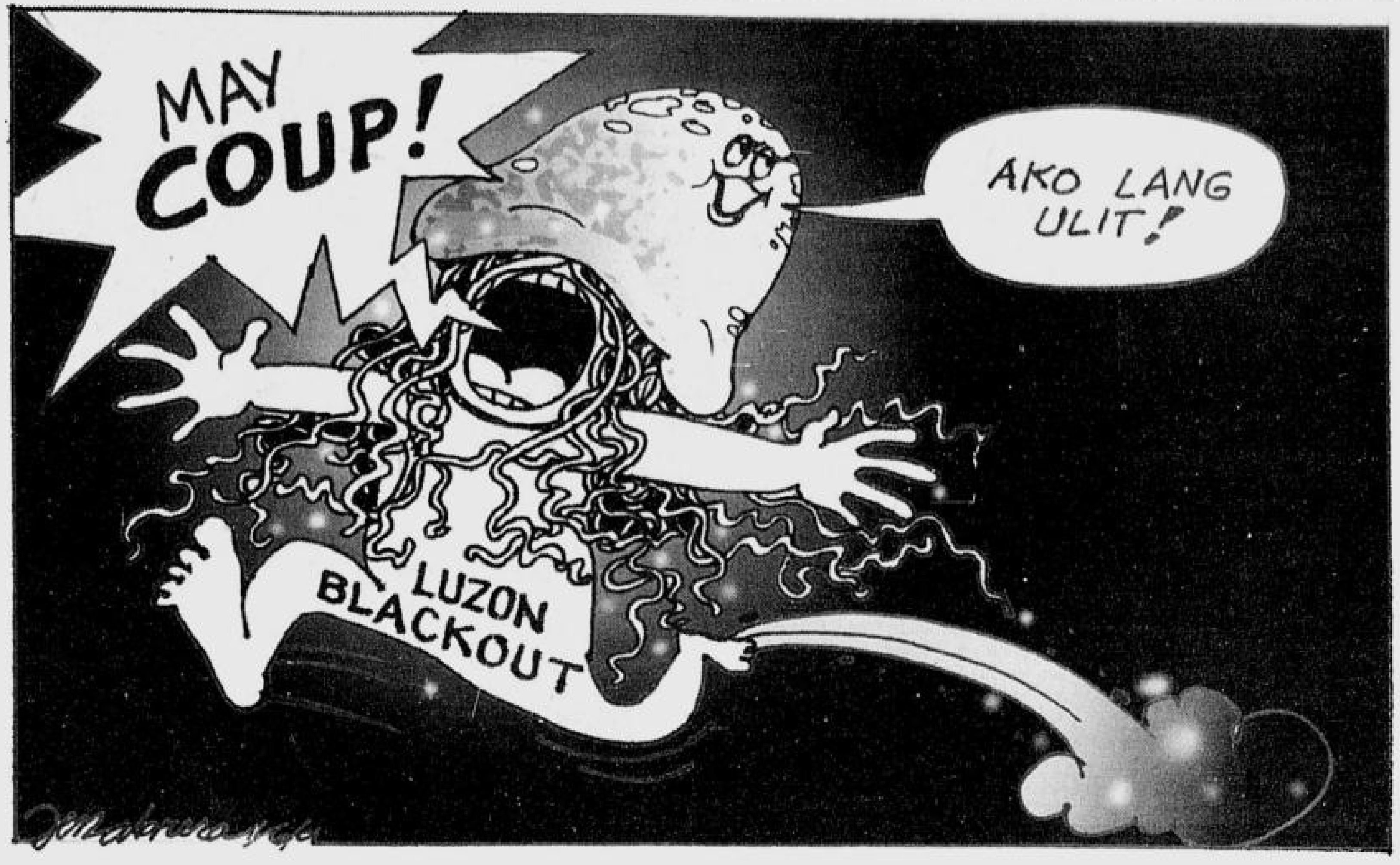

MAY COUP!
AKO LANG ULIT!
LUZON BLACKOUT

'Holiday economics'

EDITORIAL

THE NATION has just come back refreshed from a four-and-a-half-day holiday, and already there is talk that a week-long yearend holiday will be declared. President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo herself raised this possibility when she said in Baguio that she was considering declaring a seven-day Christmas-to-New Year holiday this year.

The four-and-a-half-day All Saints' Day holiday this year was unique because Nov. 2, All Souls' Day, was wedged *(naipit)* between Nov. 1, a nationwide special day, and Nov. 3, a Saturday, which for some workers is a holiday and for others is not. To make it possible for workers to enjoy a four-day vacation, Nov. 3 was declared a holiday. But did the government have to give employees half a day off of Oct. 31? As it was, those who could not have left for the provinces on Nov. 1 could have done so on Nov. 2.

The President, in considering declaring a week-long yearend holiday, said that it would give the people sufficient time to relax and also stimulate local tourism and the demand for local goods and services. She said that in some countries, the practice of declaring extended vacations is called "holiday economics." She added, "I was thinking that since the people feel the slack anyway between Christmas and New Year, let's just make it a straight vacation. So let us try holiday economics."

"Holiday economics" may be all right for rich, highly developed nations, but it may not be advisable for poor, underdeveloped countries like the Philippines. What our people need to do is not to relax and take long holiday weekends but to work, work and produce more. Already the Philippines has earned a reputation, rightly or wrongly, as a nation of laid-backed, easygoing people who will party and have a fiesta at the drop of a hat. Foreign investors—or the few who may still be thinking of coming to the Philippines—will not consider seriously a country where production schedules may be disrupted by holidays, parties or fiestas.

How many days do people in our country really work in one year? An American once tried to figure out how many days and hours of work an average employee put in a year's time. In his calculation, the average worker actually owes his company or his government office time because of the many deductions from the total working hours due to such things as holidays, emergency leaves and coffee and lunch breaks.

But the calculation was done in jest and in the spirit of fun.

Let's try to do our own calculation. There are 365 days in a year. Subtract the number of Saturdays and Sundays—104—and you get 261 working days. (This applies, of course, to the majority of government and corporate workers who work only five days a week. Some, like media people and doctors, work six days a week.) We have 10 regular holidays and two nationwide special days, according to Executive Orders 203 and 292. So, subtract 12 from 261 and you get 249.

The average worker or employee spends 30 minutes for the morning coffee break, about two hours for lunch break, and another 30 minutes for the afternoon *merienda*. That's three hours a day; multiply that by five and you get 15 hours for meal breaks a week. Multiply 15 by 52, the number of weeks in a year, and you get 780 hours, which is equivalent to 97.5 work days (8 hours a day).

Subtract 97.5 from 249 and you get 151.5. If an employee takes a two-week annual vacation, he or she will be putting in only 137.5 days of work in a year. If he/she takes a one-week sick leave, that leaves him/her with only 130.5 working days to his credit. But what if he/she goes on a maternity or paternity leave or an emergency leave? The total will be even smaller. The total of 130.5 days is 35.7 percent or more than one-third of the total of 365 days in a year. Now, do you see why we are not producing more, doing more, achieving more and attaining a higher level of development?

The proposal to declare a seven-day holiday yearend should be given more serious thought. It could affect adversely hundreds of thousands of workers who are paid under a "no work, no pay" rule. The wages that they would have to forego because of the week-long holiday could mean the difference between having three meals or just two meals a day. In extreme cases, it could mean the difference between eating and starvation.

A week-long Christmas-to-New-Year holiday of course sounds pleasant and pleasurable. But will it benefit the greater majority of the people? Will it give the nation temporary pleasure in the short run, but mean, in the long run, greater pain?

Supreme Court should look into Badoy's exposé

AS I SEE IT

Neal H. Cruz

SANDIGANBAYAN Justice Anacleto Badoy's revelation that Presiding Justice Francis Garchitorena tried to "pressure" him into resigning from the Third Division which is trying the plunder case against former President Estrada is troubling. Is this what has become of our judicial system?

Erap's defense lawyers have already petitioned Badoy to inhibit himself from hearing the case. If I'm not mistaken, they have also asked the Supreme Court to disqualify Badoy from trying the case. The reason is obvious: Badoy can neither be bought nor influenced. And they must be desperate enough to try to get rid of him by means other than legal. They made their move perhaps because they have already found a more friendly justice to take his place. Badoy said that if he resigns, Garchitorena, as the most senior justice, gets first crack at the chairmanship of the third division.

Is Garchitorena friendly to Erap? You be the judge. Garchitorena practically dismissed the perjury case against Erap. Badoy also said that Garchitorena made "public pronouncements a number of times that the plunder case cannot be treated differently from any other case."

"So you cannot proceed faster than the other cases," Badoy added. "That made the third division uncomfortable because if, for any reason, we decided later to go any faster...the accused would say that Garchitorena had said that it was not correct to proceed and treat this case differently from other cases."

What Badoy is probably trying to say is that there is a concerted effort to delay the cases against Erap. The defense has filed no less than 100 motions with the Sandigan, resolving each of which would take a lot of time. More bizarre, not one of the dozen or so lawyers of Erap appeared on the first day of the trial. Only Erap appeared in court and asked that the trial be postponed as he had no counsel. All his lawyers had varying excuses not to be there. Now, Garchitorena's pronouncement that the plunder case should not be treated differently from other cases will delay it further. If it will be treated the same way as the Marcos cases, for example, it will never move.

Such a doctrine, moreover, is faulty. The Supreme Court itself gives priority to more important cases. Anyway, this gives you an idea why the graft cases in the Sandiganbayan are moving excruciatingly slowly.

The Sandiganbayan was created primarily to resolve cases against public officials quickly. That court has no other function but that: to decide graft cases quickly because the slow wheels of justice have become the refuge of scoundrels in government. But under Garchitorena, cases in the Sandiganbayan move more slowly than cases in the regional trial courts, whose slowness it was supposed to supplant in the first place. The Marcos cases, for example, have been languishing in the Sandiganbayan for decades. Many of them have not moved. And Imelda Marcos is still free as a bird and continues to irritate us with her antics and statements. All because the wheels of justice in the Sandiganbayan grind oh so slowly.

This is the reason we should all rally behind Justice Badoy. He is a brave man. He knows that powerful forces are being used against him but he is not flinching. As a true man of justice, he is determined to see to it that justice is done and the guilty is punished. As the highest court of the land, the Supreme Court should look into the rot that a Sandiganbayan justice has exposed. Left unattended, this is like a cancer that will eat up and destroy the people's faith in our administration of justice.

* * *

Has it not occurred to the bright(?) boys in government, specifically in the Department of Energy and the National Power Corp., that connecting all the power plants in Luzon to the Luzon Grid is faulty. For the third time this year, the whole island of Luzon has been plunged into total darkness just because one power plant had conked out. Under the present unified grid, the other power plants automatically shut off to protect them from the sudden drop in power. This is good for the power plants but not for the public.

Imagine, one power plant in Pangasinan conks out and the whole of Luzon, from Ilocos to Bicol, is plunged into darkness. How backward can we get? Such a setup makes us easy victims to terrorists and putschists. All they have to do is shut down one power plant and the whole of Luzon would be blacked out and sow confusion. It would then be easy for them to march and grab important offices and people. No wonder many people thought there was another coup when the lights went out.

If the power plants were not interconnected, the others would continue operating when one of them breaks down. Only the area serviced by that one power plant would be blacked out. There would not be complete paralyzation of the whole of Luzon.

And what about the Independent Power Producers (IPPs)? We are paying them even if they are not generating electricity because there is an oversupply. Can't they be depended upon to supply power without fail? The Pangasinan plant is an IPP. If we pay them even if they don't supply electricity, shouldn't they, in all fairness, be made to pay a fine if they fail to supply power due to negligence or inefficiency?

The power breakdown was caused not by sabotage but by schools of jellyfish. This is the second time in less than a year that this same plant was brought down by jellyfish. Ordinary care could easily have prevented a repetition. Obviously, the management of the power plant was negligent. The blackout caused billions of pesos in lost income to businesses and individuals. Shouldn't the management of the power plant be penalized with a hefty fine to teach it to be more careful and vigilant?

Picture that

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

THAT was a very powerful picture of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo that appeared on the front page of the INQUIRER last Saturday. The President is grimacing while firing a gun that looks too big for her. It looks like a cal. 45, from what I've seen in the movies. That is the extent of my knowledge about guns, a knowledge I find utterly useless. She is wearing headgear to protect her ears from the loud report. She is the very picture of determination. The caption on our picture said she took time out while in Baguio to improve on her firing skills at the Philippine Military Academy.

Of course, the President can always say that if the media want to invade her space while she is amusing herself, that is media's affair. If the picture sends the wrong message to the public, and the youth in particular, that is not her fault, that is media's fault. You have a beef with something like that, take it up with media. Or with reporters and editors who have nothing better to do than to intrude on presidential pastimes.

But I'm sure that if the President had not wanted a photograph of that taken, she could easily have managed it. There are limits to how far media can hound a head of state in her private life. The picture in fact has photo opportunity written all over it. The attention isn't unwanted, it is solicited. The image it cuts, or wants to cut, is that the President is one very tough cookie. Its message is: Don't mess with this lady, she knows how to fight back. Or: The President isn't way off base, she is right on target. Or: Don't look now, but you're on the other end of the barrel. It falls right in with her recent tough talk against international terrorists, the Abu Sayyaf and kidnappers.

But what is so wrong with that?

Well, seemingly a small thing, the picture sets back by 10 years whatever gains the people who have been campaigning for gun control have won in the past. Which aren't many to begin with, since guns continue to proliferate in this country like weeds in an untended garden. We may not have a plenitude of rice and corn, but we have a plenitude of guns and bullets. The picture is a powerful one, as I said, sending subliminal messages to the public quite apart from its explicit ones. As any advertising person will tell you, subliminal messages are far more powerful than the ones that are put up front. They lodge at the level of the unconscious, and gnaw at the mind like rats on clothes in the dark of a closet. That is why many manufacturers of watches, cars and drinks now advertise their wares not just by ads by having characters in movies use them, a la "Truman Show."

That is what the picture of the President holding a gun does for guns. Whatever else it means to say, it is an open advertisement for the power of the gun. It says a lot more for buying guns than the arguments of the pro-gun people put together. Quite incidentally, that is what all those "PROGun" stickers at the back of cars also do. They send the subliminal message for you not to mess with the people inside: they have guns, they can fight back (or pick a fight with you, which is more likely), they can make you stare at the other end of the barrel.

You expect Erap to recklessly flaunt his passion for guns. But you do not expect someone whom the public at least expects to be the opposite of Erap—unlike Cory Aquino, Ms Macapagal never explicitly vowed to be so—to do so. Lest she forgets, she is the beneficiary (gratuitously, it must always be added) of a campaign expressly dedicated to accomplishing a lofty goal in a nonviolent way, which is people power. At least Ms Aquino never advertised the virtue of guns, notwithstanding that her brother was obsessed with them. One would imagine Ms Macapagal repaying her debt to people power by living up to its spirit, or at least by taking a little more care not to spit on it. Never mind what the picture of the President firing a gun does for cynical Metro Manila adults. But wonder what it does to the youth of this country to whom teachers hold her up as role model. Think of the effect a picture of Raul Roco, the education secretary, target-shooting in some AFP camp would have on elementary public school kids. And multiply that 10 times.

I believe in gun control, and fervently so. I've even argued that cops and soldiers be scrupulously and frequently examined for their mental fitness to carry guns. I suspect most of them will fail it. I believe in gun control because at the very least more guns translate into more violence, more access to guns translates into more crime. That is a simple but unassailable logic, as even America, the only Western country to cling to the notion that gun ownership is a God-given right, has learned to accept, particularly after the shooting sprees by disturbed youth on several of its campuses over the last few years. The notion that these are hard times, we must start arming ourselves for our protection—which is yet another message Ms Macapagal's picture beams—is a most dangerous one. It is not a recipe for more peace and security, it is a recipe for more crime and anarchy.

But far more than this, I believe in gun control because guns are not just inanimate, neutral tools that depend on people to do good or evil, they bring with them a very animate and fetishistic culture that wreaks harm on the minds of believers. A culture, or cult, that at its best says the only way to stop violence is with more violence. The only way to stop crime is by brawn. The only way to stop terrorists, bandit groups and kidnappers is by guns and bullets. Which is in fact the very well from which Ms Macapagal's current policies draws water. No, that picture is not the product of accident, or media whim.

A picture says a thousand words, as they say. This one bodes a thousand corpses.

Sandiganbayan suffers from intramurals

POLITICAL TIDBITS

Belinda Olivares-Cunanan

THE NATION relished the five-day holiday as a most welcome respite from recent tensions, but that holiday was marred in the end by the blackout that affected all of Luzon Sunday evening. *Sayang lang ang* holiday, as people became nervous and anxious all night over whether the much-publicized coup plot was happening. The blackout's timing was most unfortunate, as the President had just left for Brunei three hours earlier so that many people were ready to believe the worst, judging from all the nervous calls and text messages. In addition, tens of thousands of commuters coming back from out-of-town trips were stranded on pitch-black highways and city streets. We needed that blackout like a hole in the head.

Nearly two years ago, the same Sual power plant conked out, also causing a Luzon-wide blackout, and the excuse given was that a school of jellyfish caused the power outage that in turn caused other power systems to trip. Last Sunday's blackout was again attributed to those jellyfish. That sounds like a truly fishy story. Perhaps certain heads ought to be fed to the sharks of Sual.

* * *

The chair of the Sandiganbayan's Third Division, Justice Anacleto Badoy, came out Sunday to accuse Presiding Justice Francis Garchitorena of pressuring him to resign. The inference is that Garchitorena has sided with the deposed President Estrada and getting Badoy out of the division trying the plunder case against Erap is the Sandiganbayan chief's way of helping the fallen leader. Badoy suggested that he incurred Garchitorena's ire because of the way he has tried to speedily resolve the plunder case and perjury charges. Commentators sympathetic to Badoy have insinuated that millions of pesos have changed hands to influence the actions of some of his colleagues.

Garchitorena struck back at Badoy by saying that it's the latter's two colleagues in the division, Justices Teresita Leonardo de Castro and Ricardo Ilarde, who wanted him out because of Badoy's bad work habits. Garchitorena disclosed to the media letters he had written to the Supreme Court, complaining of Badoy's frequent tardiness. I also heard Estrada lawyers on radio yesterday trying to chip away at Badoy's credibility by pointing to his failure to inhibit himself from the case involving his own brother, which is pending before his own court.

* * *

This has become a battle of credibility between the two Sandiganbayan officials. I did a fast survey of people in various posts and I noted that Badoy enjoys the edge, and one big reason is that it's hard for them to think the jurist would go against his chief unless he was truly desperate. One of those who quickly professed faith in Badoy was Ombudsman Aniano Desierto, but this is not surprising, for after all, Garchitorena called Desierto's prosecutors incompetent and bumbling fools.

The unfortunate result of the intramurals in the graft court is that its integrity and reputation have come under a cloud. This is what happens when officials quarrel in public.

Badoy's charge that Garchitorena is allegedly working for Estrada appears to be the more serious one, in my opinion, and unfortunately the fiery presiding justice has puzzled even his former colleagues in the parliament of the streets before with decisions favoring, for instance, Eduardo Cojuangco and Imelda Marcos. Now people are nervous about rumors that Estrada might be let off the hook with some help from Garchitorena. That nervousness is heightened now that the constitutionality of the Plunder Law is being deliberated by the Supreme Court.

* * *

For my part, it would take more proof than a verbal allegation that money is operating in Garchitorena's case. A more widely held theory is that he is being rough on the Macapagal administration as a way of getting back at his estranged wife, Presidential Management Staff Secretary Vicky Garchitorena, a key Palace official. But a staunch defender of his, lawyer and Star columnist Jose C. Sison, ascribes Garchitorena's "unflinching stand" in various cases to his insistence that the prosecution be more efficient in preparing cases. This columnist has repeatedly heard Garchitorena complain about the sloppy work of government lawyers in Imelda's cases.

However, it cannot be denied that Garchitorena has made himself quite unpopular with various circles with his imperious manners. Recently, he appeared before the House hearings on his court's budget and a number of representatives, including former Tanodbayan and now Deputy Speaker Raul Gonzalez, were rubbed the wrong way by his haughty manner. He was reminded that he should be "a little more humble" before those who have power over his budget.

Garchitorena was also not the most popular nominee to fill the recent vacancy in the Supreme Court, to which lawyer Antonio Carpio was appointed by President Macapagal. It's also clear that he doesn't have many friends in the Supreme Court, which has issued him reprimands in the past.

* * *

With Badoy's "exposé" about alleged pressure from Garchitorena, the composition of the graft court's Third Division becomes critical, mainly because it's the one assigned to try the Erap plunder case. I understand that Justice Ilarde is retiring very soon; in fact he does not come to work regularly anymore. This and the frequent failure of a court official named Geralde, whose job is to serve the subpoenas, is said to have contributed to the slowdown in the prosecution of Estrada, not to mention the whimsical no-show of his lawyers who suddenly don't think their celebrated client's case is that important.

Badoy himself is retiring in March next year. That leaves two vacancies in the Third Division. While the power to fill up these vacancies rests with President Macapagal, her influence reaches up to that point only. The justices will decide who will compose the divisions. Under the rules, either the remaining justice—in this case, De Castro—or the presiding justice could fill the post of division chief.

Cause-oriented groups think there is a discernible pattern in the attempts to slow down Erap's plunder trial. They suspect that his camp is awaiting a change in the political climate either through the forcible removal of Macapagal from power or her defeat in 2004. Would the replacement of Badoy by Garchitorena as Third Division chief contribute to that slowdown?

More on the Greenmeadows case

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

HAVING met with and discussed the issue of the proposed Paref-Northfield School for Boys on a parcel of "open public land" in Greenmeadows with two of the "interested" parties in the dispute, it's safe to say that both "pro" and "anti" camps have reason in their favor.

The trouble is, their reasons and arguments clash and contradict. Is there no room for compromise between the parents and administrators who want to build a school in the area, and the homeowners adamantly against it?

The latest on the controversy is that Ortigas & Company, in a letter addressed to the Quezon City government, has said that it intends to revoke the waiver on restriction under the Deed of Donation that it issued. In that waiver, the company said it had no objections to the construction of a school within the lot, donated to the city government for use as an open space. This in turn enabled the proponents of the project to bring the proposal before the Quezon City Council. With the company's about-face, does this mean the controversy over the school is moot and academic?

By way of backgrounder, when I met with some of the Paref-Northfield mothers and their lawyer last week, they expressed fears of such an action by Ortigas & Company. "They are under tremendous pressure," said lawyer Ma. Elena Enriquez, "especially from their foreign partners." Apparently, the Ortigas family and principals were themselves divided over the issue of the waiver on the conditions set forth in the Deed of Donation. When this was put to a vote, though, the side favoring issuance of the waiver prevailed.

But with the issue exploding into public controversy, and with the disgruntled homeowners allegedly threatening to embroil the company in a suit over the question of use of the open space, the company has apparently re-thought its position. Possibly, its British partners which like most other foreign firms are wary of getting entangled in legalities in a foreign land, had a lot to do with this decision.

* * *

UNDOUBTEDLY, there is no denying the need for "open spaces" in the midst of urban development. Open spaces, left to lie fallow or used as parks, playgrounds, gardens or fields, not only ensure good ventilation and a touch of greenery amid urban sprawl, they also assist in maintaining civility and in community building, serving as places for families and individuals to get together. This is why there is such a provision in laws governing housing and subdivision development. And to make sure these "open spaces" are not converted years hence into commercial or private use, the law mandates that these properties be turned over to the government, "beyond the commerce of man." That is, not even the government may use the property for its own profit.

In response, the Paref-Northfield proponents point out that the school building will occupy a mere 10 percent of the property. In exchange, it will develop the rest of the lot for use of the students as well as of the surrounding community with such "open" facilities as a football field, landscaped areas, an expanded church parking lot and an office building for the homeowners association of Greenmeadows III. They point out that the disputed property had lain idle and inaccessible for 20 years, and that none of the other homeowners' associations in the area had shown any interest in developing it as a park, playground or other such use.

* * *

STILL, there's no denying that if Paref-Northfield is allowed to build on the Greenmeadows property, then other "open areas" in countless subdivisions across the country will be under threat. Paref-Northfield has offered the Quezon City government high school scholarships for up to 200 poor but deserving boys and teacher-training courses for public school teachers in exchange for its use of the land. This constitutes the "public service" counterpart to what is essentially private use of public property.

The possibility remains, though, that developers, using the Greenmeadows transaction as a precedent, could collude with private school owners and compliant homeowners associations and city or municipal councils to push through similar projects on open land, with no requisite "public service" features. What happens then to the environmental and civic amity aspects of "open spaces"?

* * *

AS a disinterested observer, I do hope the dispute is not settled by way of mere technicality, as the Ortigas' revocation of their waiver may be.

As a parent and a homeowner in a private subdivision, I'm also interested in how the controversy is decided, by way of finally establishing a precedent on land use policy and public access to "private" property like subdivisions.

The Paref-Northfield parents, for instance, have a valid point when they point out that the homeowners' associations in the surrounding villages insist that they should have been consulted about the use of the open space, since it is meant for use of the community. However, the open spaces in their own gated villages, also turned over to the city government but under the supervision of the homeowners' associations, are not open to the public. Use of their parks, swimming pools and other recreational facilities are governed by their rules and regulations which allow them to profit from their use by outsiders.

Finally, as a parent, may I ask that communities give schools some leeway, considering the social good that results from their "business"? I can well understand why homeowners would object to the establishment of a tire factory, or karaoke bar or cyber-café offering network gaming in their midst. There are serious social issues and the welfare of children at stake in such cases. But a school? I would hate to be part of a society in which traffic convenience is considered more important than education. Though at the same time, I say that a school that doesn't care about how it inconveniences the riding public can't be teaching the right values to the children placed in its trust.

Happiness is…

SENSE AND SENSIBILITY

Bambi L. Harper

NO, I have to agree it's not everybody's cup of cappuccino. The happiness I'm referring to are moldy old documents and I've just found a 1910-1978 inventory of "la Iglesia Parroquial de Santa Cruz" that I can't resist sharing. Especially interesting are the marginal comments like "lost," "no longer exists," "burnt." The inventory reads:

"# 1—A church of lime and stone with a galvanized iron roof with its corresponding tower composed of three naves with a major altar of wood with Doric and Ionic columns. There was a large silver *frontal* (ornamental panel for altar front) as well as a smaller one, 2 steps of silver, 6 candelabras (70 *pulgadas* in height). On the top rang is the *Santissima* Virgin of the Pillar carrying the Child, both clothed in silver with ivory hands and face, and in the second the *Santa Cruz* that is the guardian of the town. There are five altars, two by the Epistle side containing the images of St. Estanislao de Koska carrying the Child with ivory hands and face donated by the faithful of the town and the Virgin of the Rosary. On the Gospel side are altars containing the image of St. Joseph and the *Dolorosa*. The last altar is in the baptistery that has an oil painting of John the Baptist.

"There is the *casa parochial* also of lime and stone roofed with local tiles with its corresponding cistern. Said church and parish residence are located in the property of the parish. On the east side is the house of Don Alejandro Roces, on the north is Plaza de Sta. Cruz and on the west Plaza de Goite. The property is valued at P700,000.

"# 2—A cemetery with a fence of stone and tiled floor with its corresponding chapel that contains 546 adult niches valued at P10,000. By 1931 that had been converted into the *Iglesia del Espiritu Santo*. There was also another stone chapel of San Roque on the property of the *Obras de la Sagrada Mitra* on calle Sangleyes.

"# 3--A pious work *(obra pia)* of San Estanislao established by Doña Margarita Constancia in April of 1786 consisting of a stone house with a tiled roof composed of three doors that faces Plaza Sta. Cruz, behind which is the house of Don Catalino Reserva (penciled notation 'calle de Tambacan'), to the left is another house of Don Catalino and on the right that of Agustina Santos. The property was not insured but valued at P7,000. (By 1941 a marginal note states it was the building 'del Pilar.')

"The spouses Don Raymundo Español and Doña Andrea Alburro in 1813 established another pious work of San Nicolas in Intramuros consisting of a house and *accesorias* at #246 calle Magallanes and #31 calle Mercado appraised at P5,962.17. By 1940 it was no longer administered by the parish but by the 'mitra,' I. e the Archbishopric.

"There were *Obras Pias* in the names of Ntra Sra. Del Pilar, Ntra Sra de los Dolores, de Valdezco and D Agustin Zanely, which amounts were with the secretariat of the Archbishopric of Manila but later moved to the banks.

"# 4. Copper Bells—There were 8 bells in the tower of different sizes. A large one entitled *Invencion de la Santa Cruz* that weighed 205 pound cast March 4, 1851 and valued at P1,200. A hand bell of 39 *arrobas* and 15 pounds entitled Ntra. Señora del Pilar valued at P700. The remaining six were dedicated to St. Estanislao, San Ignacio, Ntra Señora del Rosario, San Jose (donated by the late Fr. Pedro Midel), San Saturnino Martyr and San Julian. (Unfortunately, the document does not state the bell-caster's name.) The parish also owned two strong boxes, one with a capacity to hold P10,000 and the other P12,000. (A 1939 note says these were in P. Justo's room which had been forcibly opened. By this time probably no one remembered the combination or the keys were lost.)

"Of the section titled *Alhajas de Ntra. Sra del Pilar, # 8,* we have listed among several items, silver *andas* (platform to place image borne on shoulders of bearers in processions) with 8 silver posts, an arch and knobs worth P1,430. The Lady of the Pillar on the main altar stood on a pillar of silver worth at the time P900. The original pillar may be in safekeeping but it is no longer in the church.

"There were 2 crowns, one for the Virgin and the other for the Divine Child with 14 'fake' stones, a globe and sandals of 18-carat gold worth P1,562. Buenaventura de los Reyes donated the mantle and 2 shirt-fronts/bibs for the Virgin and the Child embroidered in gold thread valued at P250.

"The *Dolorosa* had a *rostrillo* (an adornment framing the face usually representing rays of light) and dagger in silver while Our Lady of the Rosary donated by D. Carlos Mercado, had face, hands and the Child of ivory. Again this image is no longer in the church and may have been placed in a vault for safekeeping together with an image of the Immaculate Conception of wood but with face and hands of ivory that had been donated by Doña Mauricia de Borja who also donated a crucifix kept in the sacristy.

"Eventually electrified, the church was lighted by 13 chandeliers of crystal of 16 lights in the center aisle and in the two naves. Another 4 chandeliers of 8 lights added to the illumination of the naves. The baptistry had 5 chandeliers of 4 lights."

Missing Manila

TISSUE paper advertising giveaways, ramen, women teetering on ultra-high heels, Tekken and Final Fantasy, phonecards, long-legged, tan blondes with Oriental features, efficient train systems, sushi, wild parties, sky-high prices, bikes, karaoke, sumo, sukiyaki, discos till dawn, Louis-Vuitton-is-my-lord-and-god.

That nonsensical, long-winded paragraph doesn't even sum up half of what I think of Japan—Tokyo, in particular.

YOUNGBLOOD

C.G.Paredes

*We want to know what the young are thinking about. What are their thoughts on current issues? We welcome contributions from the twentysomething and below.—**Ed.***

I've been in this crazy city for six months now. There are days when time seems to fly, but sometimes I find myself staring at the clock on my wall, willing the hours to drag.

When I first considered studying in Japan early last year, the first thing I was worried about was whether I could handle the stress of living alone. Having lived with my parents for most of my life (with a few years of apartment living in college), I was really eager to have a taste of independence. And so, when I learned that I got a scholarship grant late last February, I didn't feel a twinge of misgiving or panic. I felt excited at the prospect of living the new life that awaited me. I got lost in the rounds of the numerous farewell parties that were organized in my behalf. I became immersed in shopping (Finally, winter! Think of all the wardrobe opportunities!) and packing and storing my stuff as well as making sense of my bank accounts and files. I went around feeling a sense of hazy unreality.

The day my family took me to the airport to see me off, it still didn't seem real to me. When my mom and dad kissed my cheeks in farewell, I still had the feeling I'd be seeing them in a week or two. Had I known I'd be feeling as I do now, I'd have hugged them tight just about until my flight was to depart.

It almost took me a month to realize that my stay wasn't just one of those two-week business and leisure trips I used to go on. But still I felt like my stay was one long vacation. Checking my journal, my first entry in Japan was made a week after my arrival. I wrote then "…I really can't believe I'm here…" Obviously, that was way before the reality check.

I got sick a few weeks back, and for the first time since my arrival, I found myself in tears. I realized I was missing home.

I miss being pampered and fussed over. I miss the easy conversations I had with friends I've had since childhood. I miss my mom's cooking, something I used to take for granted. When I was back home, I cooked for fun. Now cooking has become more of a chore, a necessity. More of a means of surviving rather than fun.

I miss going out into the streets and understanding every single word that came out of peoples' mouths, not having to pause and let my brain register and translate what I heard, and thereafter waiting another few minutes to formulate an appropriate answer (otherwise relying on the staple "*So desu ka…*," while nodding my head and thinking, "What the heck are they talking about?!").

I miss cheap shopping sprees, where having a few thousand in your wallet meant you could get home with a couple of shirts and pants and even a pair of shoes if you really chose well, unlike here where having a few thousands makes you wonder whether you could get home or not.

I miss San Miguel Beer. Oh god, I miss cheap movies in state-of-the-art theaters with loveseats and cola and popcorn holders installed on the armrests. *Tangina*, I even miss the clunky, smoke-belching transport jeepneys, with their bobbing, miniature, metal horses and fighting cocks, with flowing, colorful, plastic streamers, steered by drivers equipped with an even more colorful vocabulary.

But short of scrapping my scholarship and flying back home, there's nothing I can really do about it until I can go home for a brief vacation next year. Ha! Fat chance of that happening anyway.

Back home, I was fortunately employed in one of the country's biggest firms. But unless they raised my position to a directorial seat and tripled my salary, they couldn't match what I was getting here. Jeez. I'm being paid to study. Beat that if you can.

Anyway, living in a foreign country does have its perks. Like the newly acquired feeling of self-possession and independence. And in a place like Tokyo, it's hard to get bored. There's always some weird wild stuff going on. Magic mushroom and ecstasy (as well as pleasures of the flesh, straight or otherwise) are peddled on the streets. How's that for exciting?

Every day you learn something new, be it a new word in Nihongo or another *yatai* stall where you could get drunk for less than 2,000 yen.

In sum, I guess we all have to grow up sometime, broaden our perspectives by being exposed to the world through immersion in another culture. And Japan is as good a place as any, I guess. Learning, after all, isn't confined to the four walls of a classroom. Furthermore, life is more than how much money you have in your bank account or how long all those letters (Mas, MBs and Phds) that come after your name are.

The time for roses has come and I find that the world is my oyster…well, the land of the rising sun at least. Never let it be said that the Filipino cannot endure.

But god, I miss Manila.

C.G. Paredes has been accepted to the masters program of the Department of Architecture at the University of Tokyo, where she is studying Nihongo.

Sushi adventure

C.G. Paredes

MY friend Maria came up with this great analogy about love, life and sushi bars the other day as we were listlessly waiting to serve ourselves at our favorite *kaiten-zushi* (a type of sushi bar) in Shibuya. "Waiting for the right man is just like eating at *kaiten-zushi*," she said. "It's always an adventure."

Too deep or too raw for you to dig? Let me elaborate.

Imagine yourself sitting at one of those stools in front of a bar where a mini conveyor belt with small plates of sushi passes in front of you. The colors of the plates are indicative of the prices of the sushi, so proceed with caution. The time spent waiting for something to whet your appetite varies. Sometimes it takes ages for something to show up and you're fidgeting in anticipation, and then there are times when everything comes all at once and you never know which one to pick because everything just passes you in a blur. Let's face it, there are always times in a woman's life when she feels like Venus de Milo, where she has men dangling left and right; and there are times when she feel like a regular Jane Doe whom no one really cares about.

But let's get back to the main menu. Funny how the grossest looking sushi almost always turn out to be the best tasting ones, while the ones you expect to be *sugoi* (amazing) turn out to be *mama* (so-so). Funny how we often judge people by their appearances. But sometimes when you summon the courage to put that slimy, smelly piece of raw whatever-it-is into your mouth, you can be in for a pleasant surprise! Other times you expect so much from an elegantly presented dish only to come crashing back to earth.

The thing is, we always will have to take a chance in life. It's what living is all about: making mistakes, learning from them, and thus choosing more wisely.

As the attendant tallied up our bill, I wondered if this is what it'll all come to in the end: facing someone with a tally of what we had accomplished in our life. I just hope that by that time, I've had my fill and I was satisfied with the adventure.

But one of the main analogies that really stuck with me is that waiting for the right man is very much like eating at *kaiten-zushi*, something will always come along whether you like it or not, but it's always up to you whether to take it or leave it. What goes around doesn't necessarily come around though. What you don't want, another may covet. But there's always something for everybody.

Congress confused about its role

NEAL Cruz's column last Oct. 29 about Congress was an ugly account of the Philippine political system, but I could not agree with him more. Congress is a waste of time and taxpayer's money. All that its members care about is how they would get the money or the influence that would ensure their victory in the next election.

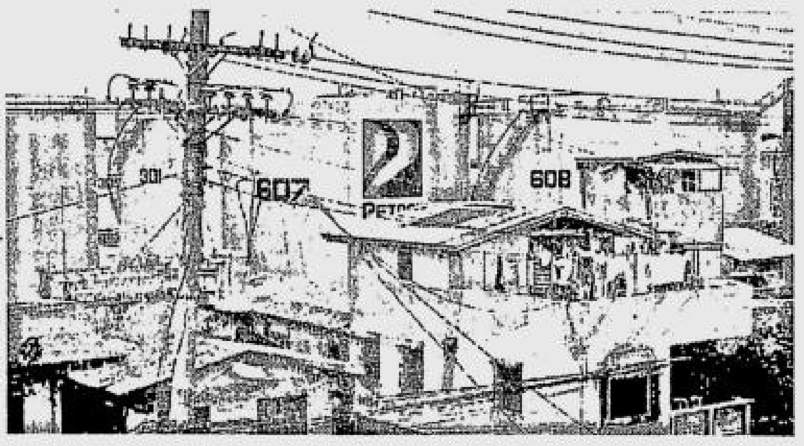
I think the problem lies with what I perceive to be a confusion of roles. There are three branches of government which have their own specific roles and obligations. However, in the Philippines, the line which distinguishes one from the other seems to be unclear. This is especially true of Congress.

Members of Congress, in a true democratic sense, are representatives of the people. They are not local administrators who initiate plans and program for their constituents. Neither are they chief executives who identify projects for implementation. They are, to repeat, representatives of the people. They are our voices in an otherwise noisy political environment. They are our means to be heard. They are supposed to carry the sentiments of their constituents, be it local or national. They should represent us on issues that are affecting us through legislation. It is for this reason that they are called representatives.

Despite this seemingly clear mandate, have you ever been consulted on a particular issue? My memory is short but I am certain that I have never participated in a consultation or even a dialogue with my representative. So whose sentiments are they representing anyway?

Finally, if our representatives want to continue with their investigations, may I suggest that we just attach Congress as an office under the National Bureau of Investigation. Then we will save more money because we do not have to buy a hundred thousand pesos worth of *turon* for their meetings.—**ARNEL CAPILI, Development Administration, National Center for Development Studies, Australian National University**

Politicians should admit errors



JEROME Aning wrote a noteworthy item about the decision of the Manila City Council to have the oil depot in Pandacan relocated. I am not a Manila resident but I have some questions for the Manila government authorities:

First, the decision to reclassify the industrial zone on which the Pandacan oil depot stands into a commercial zone is purportedly due to your concern for the "welfare of Manila residents." But why reclassify? It was an industrial zone in the first place, right? Why did city planners, zoners, or whatever they are called, allow residents to build their homes and to live within an industrial zone and a high-risk zone at that? Is this not a classic case of passing the real blame to others?

I think there's a need to see things straight here. Why not move the settlers instead? Because the fact is that Manila officials can't—because they know the value of those votes in the next election.

This clearly demonstrates what kind of governance we have. Anytime the rules don't suit the state, the state changes the rules. And instead of acknowledging the fact that government was at fault in the first place, they use their constituents to disguise their lack of integrity. What kind of leadership is that?

Second, Manila officials think they're making a very popular decision by relocating that depot. Do they understand how much that will cost the oil companies (not that I care)? The cost of transfer will definitely give these companies a convenient excuse to raise prices! And guess, who gets to pay the price? We consumers again.

Don't get me wrong. I am not taking the side of the oil companies. Who cares if they have to spend the several billion bucks for this? It's just that I have yet to hear any politician, local or national, stand firmly and acknowledge that they too make mistakes. What we as a nation lack, is not ability. It's not ideas. It's not even political will. What we really need is the balls to acknowledge faults and accept responsibility. —**MICHAEL DE LA CRUZ, 24 Holy Spirit Dr., Diliman, Quezon City**

Deceptive ads on refractive surgery

THE US Federal Trade Commission has received numerous inquiries concerning potentially misleading promotions and advertising for radial keratotomy (RK), photorefractive keratectomy (PRK), and laser assisted in-situ keratomileusis (Lasik). In the August 2001 issue of the Review of Refractive Surgery (supplement to the Review of Ophthalmology), contributing editor Lisette Hilton wrote an article titled, "Deceptive advertising." Hilton said that in their zeal to lure patients for refractive surgery, many surgeons fail to tell the whole story.

This topic is timely considering the recent growing competition among providers of laser refractive surgery to attract patients. In fact, in many cities abroad, these services are even established and offered in the malls. As such, aggressive marketing becomes part of the imperatives to the industry's growth, if not survival.

There is nothing wrong about advertising as long as it is truthful. Under the FTC Act, deception can occur through omission of information when that information is necessary to prevent an affirmative representation from being misleading, or simply by remaining silent, if doing so constitutes an implied but false representation. An omission is considered deceptive only if the absence of the information causes the advertisement to convey an inaccurate impression about a material fact.

"Throw away your glasses" and "Glasses will soon become museum pieces." These seem to be simple enough claims to what refractive surgery can do for patients. After all, postoperatively many people won't need glasses for most daytime activities. But Hilton says, "Still this fact is not a sufficiently strong reason to make the claim. Other potential areas for misleading advertising include the simplicity of Lasik without giving consumers a clear explanation of the potential risks, or implying that every Lasik patient will see 20/20 postoperatively, when in fact some may not."

According to Mathew Daynard, senior lawyer at the Bureau of Consumer Protection in Washington, D.C., there's currently a great deal of advertising for refractive surgery—more than any other area of surgery. "The advertising (for refractive surgery) seems to hype just the benefits and low cost, without telling consumers that there can be serious risks and complications... consumers are not getting the full picture from the advertising."

Concerned about deceptive or misleading claims, the FTC and the American Academy of Ophthalmology jointly released a consumer brochure about Lasik in August 2000 (available online at www.fcc.gov). Called "Basik Lasik," the text emphasizes that "Lasik is surgery and not simply vision correction. While thousands of people have had the procedure and are satisfied with their results, the surgery does carry risks and complications do occur."

According to the AAO, those complications occur in 5 percent or fewer of refractive procedures. The AAO also notes that while 7 out of 10 patients achieve 20/20 vision, this does not always mean "perfect" vision, as the average consumer might presume. Even with Lasik, most people will still require reading glasses at about age 45. Moreover, the brochure makes clear that Lasik is still a relatively new procedure—too new to know about long-term complications beyond five years postoperatively. The federal guidelines for eye care providers covering PRK and Lasik can be viewed at www.ftc.gov/bcp/guides/eyecare2.htm. It says: "An advertisement is deceptive under Section 5 of the FTC Act, and therefore, unlawful, if it contains a representation or omission of fact that is likely to mislead consumers acting reasonably under the circumstances, and that representation or omission is material that is likely to affect a consumer's choice or use of a product or service."

Advertisers are responsible for what they say in their advertisements, says the FTC, which lists these areas of concern: (1) Advertisers must have substantiation for all objective claims about a product or service before the claims are disseminated. Scientific evidence is necessary for claims regarding safety, efficacy or success. Testimonials are not sufficient evidence; (2) Deception also occur when relevant information is omitted. An advertisement must state real results, not a selective representation of some or most of the results; (3) While the claim that patients can throw their glasses away is blatantly deceptive, even more limited claims might also be deceptive: for example, suggesting that those with myopia and no other refractive vision deficiencies can throw away their eyeglasses after refractive surgery; (4) The advertisement must include a disclaimer that a significant number of patients might require eyeglasses to achieve their best vision for reading conditions and night driving.

Eyeglasses will soon become museum pieces? That's a blatant, deceptive claim, according to FTC standards. Let us not vilify eyeglasses which have been serving the vision needs of humanity for centuries.—**CLARO M. CINCO, O.D., F.A.A.O., Cinco Clinic Eye Care Associates, G/F Diaz Building, Capitol Site, Osmeña Boulevard, Cebu City 6000**

PHILIPPINE DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

NOTICE TO DEPOSITORS OF THE CLOSED RURAL BANK OF BUGALLON (Pangasinan), INC. (RBBI)

1. Pursuant to the commitment of the Philippine Deposit Insurance Corporation (PDIC) to promptly service claims for insured deposits, initial payoff operations will be conducted in the closed Rural Bank of Bugallon (Pangasinan), Inc. for the settlement of insured deposits with balances of P10,000.00 and below. Depositors whose deposit balances are within the said amount are requested to proceed directly to the premises of the said closed bank from November 6 to December 3, 2001, Mondays thru Fridays, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM, where PDIC representatives are stationed to accept claims and entertain queries of depositors.

   Settlement of insured deposits above P10,000.00 will be made and announced as soon as the examination of deposits is completed by PDIC.
2. Depositors are advised to present the following requirements to our representatives when filing their claims:
   a. Original evidence of deposit such as Savings Passbook, Certificate of Time Deposit and/or latest bank statement and unused check/s; and
   b. Latest identification document (ID) bearing the depositor's signature.

   Other documents may be required by our representatives in the course of their processing of claims filed.
3. Pursuant to the provisions of R.A. 3591 as amended by R.A. 7400, the prescriptive date (last day) for filing of claims for insured deposits in the closed Rural Bank of Bugallon (Pangasinan) Inc. is on April 8, 2003. After April 8, 2003, PDIC as insurer, shall no longer accept any claim for insured deposits maintained with the said closed bank.

PHILIPPINE DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION

(PDI – Nov. 5 & 6, 2001)

The need for congressional investigations

IN RESPONSE to the growing sentiments against congressional investigation in aid of legislation, I would like to state that the current vigorous pursuit of its use is important for the democratic climate to remain. This function of Congress is perhaps the most important one.

Hearings are perhaps more important than the bill being filed and discussed in the congressional halls. The reasons are varied but allow me to stress two important ones.

First, the results of these hearings and the data generated from these hearings are the major foundation of a proposed law. Mess with the hearings and you have a messy bill and ultimately, a messy law.

Second, the congressional power to conduct investigation places in check excesses of the executive branch and this is perhaps their most important function in a democracy. Unintentionally, Congress is also checking its own acts since they will have to live by the same standards that they impose on other officials of government.

Thus, I would say that the hounding of erring officials by Congress using the threat of or actual investigation is good. It means that Congress is not "co-opted" or worse corrupted. As long as its members are investigating anomalies—maliciously or not—they are performing a deterrent function against corrupt and abrasive government officials.

This is not to say, however, that the hearings currently being conducted are done in a utilitarian way in order to come up with sound legislation. I believe, an ACDC (attack and collect, defend and collect) type of inquiry is immoral. Legislators who conduct these types of hearing should be banished from that august body. Others such as investigations into anomalous government practices—factual, manufactured, or imagined—may be beneficial.

What makes congressional hearings a tainted practice is the nature of the people conducting the hearing. It is not the subject matter under consideration. Any subject is legitimate as long as it results in better laws. When lawmakers conduct hearings without any intention of coming up with better legislation, their judgment is clouded resulting in mediocre laws.

Thus, it is important that Congress should be held in check. The executive branch can do this checking through veto and other executive means. If they remain stubborn and continue to be misdirected, then the people should vote them out.

Congress should go on with the investigations and not enact laws without conducting a thorough investigation just because the public or some columnist bullies them into coming up with some piece of legislation. We want quality not quantity.—**MELCHOR DE GUZMAN, PH.D., Indiana University, melchordguzman@yahoo.com**

Republic of the Philippines
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
City of Parañaque

INVITATION TO BID

The City Government of Parañaque is inviting interested parties / accredited suppliers to participate and submit sealed bids for the supply and delivery of the following:

"PAMASKONG HANDOG PARA SA MAHIRAP PROJECT"

2800 Box of Best Food Mayo Magic 220ml/24
2083 Box of Salad Macaroni (Royal) 400g/35
1845 Box of Spaghetti Noodles (Royal) 450g/35
2800 Box of Fruit Cocktail (Del Monte) 850g/24
1458 Box of Cheese (Quezo) 200g/48
2800 Box of Luncheon Meat (Purefoods) 350g/24
2400 Box of Refill Nescafe (Nescafe) 100g/30
1250 Box of Powdered filled milk (Alaska) 180g/60
1548 Sacks of White Sugar (50kls)
8000 Sacks Sinandoming Rice (50 kls/sack)

All sealed bids will be received by the Committee on Awards on or before 10:00 A.M. and then publicly opened at the City of Conference Room at exactly 2:00 P.M. on November 23, 2001.

Interested parties/accredited suppliers may secure the necessary bid documents and information from the Office of the City Mayor.

The City Government of Parañaque reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any formality or defect contained therein and accept the lowest complying and reasonable bid that is most advantageous to the City Government.

(Sgd.) JOEY P. MARQUEZ
City Mayor

(PDI--Nov. 6, 8 & 10, 2001)

National emergencies and drugs

PINOY KASI

Michael L. Tan

"CIPRO sales beat Viagra," said one news headline in the United States. Everyone knows what Viagra is, but Cipro? That's the American brand name for the antibiotic ciprofloxacin, which Americans have been using to treat and prevent anthrax.

Ciprofloxacin is expensive. In the United States, people who have been exposed to anthrax are put on a prophylactic (preventive) dose of two 500 mg tablets a day for 60 days. The drug costs P74.25 each in the Philippines, which means it would cost us P8,910 per person if we followed that prophylactic dose.

A growing number of physicians and public health professionals in the United States and Europe have been questioning the way ciprofloxacin is used. It's important we tune in to these discussions because they're not just about anthrax but public health in general.

First, there has been concern over the rather indiscriminate use of ciprofloxacin. American public health officials have put scores of government employees and officials, including all the US Supreme Court justices, on the 60 days prophylactic dose, all simply because of suspicions of exposure. Then, too, there's the problem of hysterical consumers buying the drug through the Internet and self-medicating.

The drug is fairly safe, but some pharmacologists point to reports of damage to cartilage tissue (for example, rupture of the Achilles' tendon) and psychiatric reactions among a few users. The greater concern is that widespread and indiscriminate use of ciprofloxacin might result in resistance to the antibiotics, a situation which the British Medical Journal says would represent a "triumph for the terrorists."

The Americans might want to learn from the Philippines, where the antibiotic, registered under the brand name Ciprobay, has been misused. Even in the 1980s, I remember the drug becoming popular among women sex workers and clients who self-medicated themselves with the antibiotic whenever they suspected they had gonorrhea (*tulo*). Not surprisingly, by the 1990s, ciprofloxacin-resistant strains of gonorrhea had emerged in the Philippines.

In the last week, American public health officials have reviewed the use of ciprofloxacin and are now endorsing older and cheaper antibiotics such as amoxicillin and doxycycline. There was some debate on whether the anthrax strains being used by the bioterrorists were of a particular virulent type resistant to the older antibiotics, but the more level-headed pharmacologists pointed out that the only way to find out was to test the strains before resorting to ciprofloxacin.

That's good advice for the Philippines as well, where antibiotics are chosen and used rather inappropriately, often based on the experiences of neighbors or a friend. Like the Americans, we go for the latest and most expensive drugs even when older and cheaper ones are as effective.

Which takes me to the second lesson we might pick up from the anthrax threat: the costs of the antibiotic. Ciprofloxacin was discovered by the German company Bayer, which still holds the patent on the drug in most countries, including the United States. This means they have exclusive rights to produce and sell the drug in the country where they hold the patent.

Following the anthrax outbreak, the US government decided it should stockpile 100 million tablets of ciprofloxacin and asked Bayer to lower their wholesale price of $1.77 each. Bayer refused. The government then threatened to order the antibiotic from generic manufacturers. Bayer protested, saying this violated their patent but in the end, the company lowered their price to 95 cents per tablet for the first 100 million tablets, with a commitment to produce a second batch at 85 cents each and a third at 75 cents.

American and European consumer groups believe the price could be lowered even more. In some countries where the ciprofloxacin patent has expired, local generic manufacturers are selling the drug at much lower prices, from a "high" of about 50 cents each down to as low as three cents.

The case of ciprofloxacin revives old questions about profits and patents. Patent protection runs from 17 to 20 years and was instituted to allow the innovator to recover the costs of research and development. In the case of medicines, questions have been raised as to how long it takes to recover such costs, and to make a profit. Researchers point out that the costs have been recovered for some drugs as quickly as within two or three years.

Consumer groups are also asking: What happens when national interest demands large supplies of a drug which is still under patent and too expensive for most people? Last year when countries like Brazil and South Africa looked for ways to produce or procure generic versions of expensive patented AIDS drugs, the US government cried foul and threatened sanctions. Yet when the anthrax threat emerged and the Americans needed ciprofloxacin the government was ready to bust the patent and go to generic manufacturers.

The Economist, a conservative British business magazine that has vehemently defended free trade and patent rights, was moved to ask in an Oct. 27 editorial: "But surely millions of victims of HIV in Kenya are as much of a national emergency as a dozen cases of anthrax in America?"

In the Philippines, we fret about anthrax and forget about other national public health emergencies that plague us day to day. To name just one, there are about 300,000 Filipinos with active tuberculosis, with 25,000 dying each year. I could go on to name other diseases, from hypertension to ulcers, that claim thousands of Filipino lives each year. Most of these diseases can be cured but the medicines are unaffordable, mainly because the patent system allows the holder to dictate their price.

* * *

Comments to miguel@pinoykasi.net

A friend of the environment

THE FIRST thing I do upon waking up in the morning is read my daily copy of the INQUIRER. I like your fearless style of reporting and the clarity of the language of your column writers. However, sometimes I am mentally disturbed with the truthfulness and fairness of your news captions and presentation.

In a recent issue of the INQUIRER for instance, Manila Mayor Lito Atienza was pictured with the candidates of the Miss Earth Beauty Pageant, depicting the pageant beauties as environment-friendly and the city mayor as unfriendly to the environment.

I have had the chance to work for the City Government of Manila for over 42 years until my retirement in 1998. I worked in the Office of the Mayor for more than 34 years, successively as a division chief, bureau director and department head in the administrations of Lacson, Villegas, Bagatsing, Lopez, Lim and Atienza. I can say with candor and conviction that while each of the ex-mayors exerted their best efforts to serve the city, Atienza is, to me, the most focused and development-oriented city mayor I have had the opportunity to serve.

I wish, therefore, that my favorite newspaper will discontinue to depict him in print media as an environment-unfriendly city mayor. What better testimony can there be than the very environment-friendly and pro-life flagship projects of the good mayor under his Buhayin Ang Maynila Program?

Let us all give Atienza the support he needs to develop Manila in line with the clear mandate given to him by the people of Manila who reelected him precisely because they approve of his city development program. Let us not be waylaid by his critics who have unfairly labeled him as unfriendly to the environment.—**CARLOS V. NATIVIDAD, 8 Mirasol St., Tahanan Village, Parañaque City**

The **WORLD**
LUVERNE B. GUECO, EDITOR

AN AFGHAN man fleeing war and hunger in his homeland waits to enter the Pakistan border town of Chaman, Nov. 4. Pakistan now hosts over 2.5 million displaced Afghans. REUTERS

US boosts commando might in Afghan war

WASHINGTON/KABUL—The United States, hoping to hasten the downfall of Afghanistan's Taliban rulers, said on Sunday it had sent in more special forces to help US warplanes target frontline fighters defending key cities against opposition guerrillas.

US aircraft began the fifth week of daily raids as Washington pressed its campaign to destroy both the Taliban and the allied al-Qaida network, blamed for the Sept. 11 attacks on America in which about 4,800 people were killed.

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld said damage inflicted so far had crippled Afghanistan's hardline Muslim rulers to the point that they could no longer be regarded as a proper government, but that the al-Qaida network they were harboring still posed a threat to global security.

Foreign aid workers estimated up to 300 fighters of the ruling Afghan militia have been wounded in the last week of bombing runs focusing on helping Afghanistan's Northern Alliance opposition by targeting Taliban frontline fighters.

US Air Force Gen. Richard Myers, chair of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said the bombing raids should be improved by the presence in Afghanistan of more US specialists who would be able to pinpoint Taliban trenches and other targets for air strikes.

"The more teams we get on the ground, the more effectively we will bring air power to bear on the Taliban's lines," he said in a television interview. "Just last night, the night before, we put in a couple more teams."

Officials previously reported up to 100 US special forces troops in Afghanistan and Rumsfeld has said he would like to see a significant increase in their numbers.

The defense secretary, making a lightning tour of five key states backing the US offensive in Afghanistan, told reporters in Islamabad the Taliban "are not really functioning as a government as such."

"As a military force they have concentrations of power that exist. They have military capabilities that exist. They are using their power in enclaves . . . to impose their will." *Reuters*

US probes 2 new anthrax cases

WASHINGTON—US authorities were investigating yesterday two new anthrax contamination cases, as another Capitol Hill office building received the all-clear to reopen all but three of its offices.

New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani said a tape sent by NBC news anchor Tom Brokaw's office to City Hall had tested positive for anthrax.

"They sent it off for testing several times and it came back as positive," Giuliani told reporters on Sunday.

Environmental tests at City Hall have come back negative and no one there has tested positive for anthrax so far, officials said. The tape was sent for testing after the news that Brokaw's assistant had contracted anthrax, Giuliani said.

Over the past month, there have been 17 confirmed anthrax cases in the United States, including 10 cases of inhalation anthrax. Four people have died after inhaling anthrax spores amid a spate of contaminated letters mailed in the aftermath of the Sept. 11 attacks on New York and Washington.

Environmental tests cleared the way for the reopening on Monday of most of the Longworth House Office Building on Capitol Hill. The building was shut down for testing on Oct. 26 after anthrax was detected in the offices of three congressmen.

"Those offices will remain closed," Lt. Dan Nichols, spokesperson for the US Capitol police said on Sunday.

"Those will be isolated, but the rest of the building will return to normal operations," Nichols said. *Reuters*

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Israel leaves town, remains in 4 others

JERUSALEM—Israeli tanks and troops withdrew from another Palestinian West Bank town at dawn Monday, but they still hold four cities, with no talks on the horizon and low-level violence still continuing.

"The Israeli Army has withdrawn from the positions it occupied for more than two weeks," a military spokesperson said, but stressed that "the Israeli forces remain around Qalqilya to continue to thwart terrorist activities in the area."

The Army "will continue to do whatever is necessary to guarantee the security of civilians and Israeli military personnel," the spokesperson added.

Palestinian security officials confirmed that some 30 Israeli tanks had left Qalqilya, a process which took several hours, but said the Army was keeping up road blocks around the area.

Israeli forces moved into six Palestinian towns after the Oct. 17 slaying of tourism minister Rehavam Zeevi by Palestinian extremists.

The move, unprecedented in scale since the Palestinian autonomous zones were created in 1994, has been widely criticized by the world community, which said it would escalate tensions.

A week ago Israel pulled out of Bethlehem, one of the six towns its troops had entered, as well as nearby Beit Jalia.

Israeli Defense Minister Binyamin Ben Eliezer was quoted by Army radio as telling a weekly Cabinet meeting Sunday that he was also in favor of withdrawing from the four other towns—Nablus, Ramallah, Tulkarem and Jenin—still surrounded or partly occupied, but did not fix a date.

There were fears that the Qalqilya withdrawal might be canceled at the last minute, after a Palestinian gunman shot up an Israeli bus in occupied east Jerusalem, killing two Israelis and wounding 35 other passengers before Israeli security forces shot him dead.

The Palestinian Authority condemned that attack, claimed by the radical Islamic Jihad movement, and rejected Israeli accusations that it was responsible for the violence.

There was also a brief firefight between Palestinians and Israeli troops in Qalqilya late Sunday.

As the Israelis were completing their pullout from the West Bank city, other troops mounted a brief incursion into a Palestinian-controlled area of Rafah in the southern Gaza Strip, Palestinian sources said.

A tank and two bulldozers advanced into the area and destroyed two houses, amid gunfire in which two Palestinians were wounded by bullets, the sources said.

Meanwhile Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat and Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres were due to sit at the same conference table Monday and Tuesday for the second time in less than a week, but no negotiations were on the cards.

Arafat is to address the ministerial meeting in Brussels of European Union and Mediterranean countries, which is overshadowed by the Middle East crisis and the US-led war against terrorism.

Peres and Arafat had met Friday and Saturday on the sidelines of a Euro-Mediterranean forum on the Spanish island of Majorca but any negotiations aimed at ending the 13-month Palestinian uprising were ruled out in advance. *AFP*

AN ISRAELI soldier atop a personnel carrier remains vigilant during the Israeli withdrawal from the West Bank town of Qalqilya Nov. 5. Despite another Palestinian shooting attack in Jerusalem Sunday, Israel pulled its troops out of another town of six it had occupied following the assassination of one of its Cabinet ministers. AP

Japan, NZ clash again over whaling

TOKYO—Signs of renewed tension over whaling emerged yesterday between Japan and New Zealand, with Tokyo claiming that anti-whaling New Zealand was contradicting itself by taking part in meetings aimed at establishing rules for managed commercial whaling.

"It's not anything new. But New Zealand is contradicting itself. It says it does not want to allow any commercial whaling, but it has been participating in (the International Whaling Commission) meetings that aim to set up international rules under which managed commercial whaling can start," said Joji Morishita, deputy director of the far seas fisheries division of the Japanese Fisheries Agency.

"I don't understand their position. Why are they participating in the meetings whose ultimate goal is to allow whaling, while they remain anti-whaling?" he said.

Morishita's comments followed a Radio New Zealand interview with his New Zealand counterpart, Jim McLay, Wellington's representative to the IWC, who said Japan has falsely claimed that commercial whaling might resume after the IWC's annual meeting in May in Japan.

McLay was responding to an earlier statement by Morishita that an experts meeting of the IWC in Cambridge, Britain last week had been "productive." *AFP*

Asean embarks on 4-year war on AIDS

BANDAR SERI BEGAWAN—Southeast Asian leaders yesterday adopted an ambitious four-year program to combat a regional HIV/AIDS epidemic, and warned drug use threatened to overtake sexual transmission as the major cause of infection.

They warned if measures weren't taken to reverse the spread of the disease, "the number of people infected is likely to increase through risk behaviors, which are exacerbated by political, social and economic vulnerability factors in the region."

At the end of 1999, UNAIDS estimated there were 1.63 million people with HIV/AIDS in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations region, which covers a total population of 510 million.

A 51-page report "Asean Work Program on HIV/AIDS II (2002-2005)," unveiled at the forum's annual summit, was designed to reduce the rate of HIV transmission.

The elaborate program identifies the causes and spells out Asean's joint strategies to prevent HIV infection and mitigate its social and economic impact.

The Asean leaders warned in a declaration at the end of their meeting Monday that the number of people afflicted with HIV/AIDS in the region "is increasing rapidly through risk behaviors exacerbated by economic, social, political, financial and legal obstacles as well as harmful attitudes and customary practices."

AIDS activists immediately hailed Asean's initiative.

In August, the World Health Organization warned that the death rate of adults in Asian nations will rise by up to 40 percent in the coming decade due to the Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome, caused by the human immunodeficiency virus.

The three Asean nations with the highest rates of HIV/AIDS, above 1.0 percent of population, are Cambodia, Burma and Thailand, the report said.

"The HIV/AIDS epidemics in Asean countries are at different stages range from early epidemic to full blown epidemic with devastating impacts," it said. *AFP*

THERE THEY GO REUTERS

Geese run at the start of the "Palio of the Goose" in the northern Italian village of Mirano Nov. 4. The 120 geese in this year's race competed for top slots in a 419-meter run. The owners are not allowed to touch the birds, but can guide them with a stick. The Palio was won by a goose called "Margherita" guided by 8-year-old Stefano Comacetto.

Cyanide spills into China river

BEIJING—Thousands of soldiers have been mobilized to contain a massive cyanide spill in a river in central China which is posing a health risk to local residents and farm animals, officials said Monday.

Eleven tons of liquid sodium cyanide began leaking into a tributary of the Luohe river in Henan province over the weekend after a traffic accident on Thursday, an official with the Luoning county government said.

Soldiers had erected two dams around the contaminated area, measuring four kilometers in length, she said.

"At present the spill is contained and there is no danger of the contamination seeping into the Luohe river," she said.

The Luohe river is a shallow tributary of the Yellow River, the cradle of Chinese civilization and a major waterway in northern China.

As little as 0.3 grams of the chemical is enough to kill an adult, the China Daily reported, adding that so far only one person had been poisoned.

The barrages around the spill appeared to have been made of sand and gravel dumped from trucks.

Soldiers had also dumped 500 tons of disinfectants into the contaminated area in an effort to disperse the poison, the report said. *AFP*

India, Pakistan troops trade fire

SRINAGAR, India—Indian and Pakistani troops exchanged heavy mortar fire overnight and Monday on their disputed border in Kashmir, an Indian Army spokesperson said.

The spokesperson said Pakistani troops Sunday evening resorted to "indiscriminate and unprovoked" mortar firing in the Tangdar and Karna sectors of northern Kupwara district from across the Line of Control (LoC)—the de facto border that divides Kashmir between India and Pakistan.

Two residential houses were damaged in the shelling.

"The Indian Army in its exercise of its right to take appropriate action carried out retaliatory engagement against military targets in the general area opposite Tangdar," an Army spokesperson said, adding damages on the Pakistani side were unclear.

Another exchange of fire between the two armies along the LoC was reported Monday. No casualties or damage was reported.

The two countries have fought three wars over Kashmir since their independence from Britain in 1947.

The fresh exchange of fire occurred a day after Army officials in Indian Kashmir's summer capital Srinagar claimed that three Pakistani soldiers were killed in a similar cross-border exchange of fire in the Haji Peer sector of north Kashmir.

Tension has increased on the LoC since Oct. 15, when the Indian Army launched "punitive" shelling across the LoC that it said destroyed 11 Pakistani posts and killed 30 Muslim militants.

The head of the UN Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP) has warned of escalating tensions along the LoC. *AFP*

Prostitutes give student discounts

BEIJING—Prostitution in China has become so widespread that "student discount prices" for sexual services are being advertised in some establishments in the central province of Hubei, state press said Monday.

Students at an unnamed university in Wuhan city could get a "Thai-style massage" for the discounted price of $3.60 at barbers' shops and dance halls around 200 meters from the university gates, the China Youth Daily said.

"This is completely shocking, that the sex industry can go so far as to offer 'student prices,'" the paper said.

The discounts were openly advertised in the windows of the shops, which front as brothels throughout China.

Male students at the university appeared to be fully aware of what a "Thai-style massage" consisted of, the paper said.

"When faced with the charms of sex, these youths are definitely not mature enough to restrain themselves . . . this activity has ruined the academic career of many students," it said.

The paper urged the government to improve the study environment for students and take stronger measures to clean up the entertainment industry.

Prostitution in China has exploded during the nation's 20-year market economic reform drive, with the age-old practice particularly booming as women became the first to be laid off at ailing state-run enterprises and last to be hired by emerging industries. *AFP*

Deep breathing as 'enlightened' sentencing

By Louise Daly

VEDIC CITY, Iowa—When US circuit judge David Mason was first approached about using transcendental meditation (TM) to rehabilitate offenders, he scoffed at the idea.

But five years later Mason is a roving ambassador for what some have called "the enlightened sentencing project," extolling the benefits of TM as far afield as Australia.

At a conference here last weekend, Mason described how TM could help keep petty criminals on the straight and narrow, giving them the skills to deal with the everyday stress that might otherwise spark criminal tendencies.

"It's really important to get a grasp of the relationship between stress and criminal behavior," he said, noting expert testimony of psychologists pointed repeatedly to stress as a trigger for criminal behavior.

The alcohol and drug addictions that often go hand in hand with crime often stem from weak "coping abilities," he told the conference hosted by the Maharishi University of Management (MUM)—the nexus of the TM community in this southeastern corner of Iowa.

Frustrated by seeing the same faces parade through his courtroom, Mason reckoned he would not be drastically changing his probationary regime with the addition of transcendental meditation.

After developing a curriculum that "passed constitutional muster," he began what was essentially a privately-funded experiment in 1996, with petty criminals taking a six-week course of TM sessions as a condition of their probation.

Encouraged by Mason's results, three other judges on the 22nd Circuit Court embarked on the experiment, all of whom have been pleasantly surprised by the results.

An informal study showed recidivism among the 120 offenders was markedly lower than might be expected—just 10 percent committed crimes within three years, compared to the state average of 50 percent.

"I was confident there would be some benefits, but I was surprised at the degree of success," among individuals "who have spent their lives using drugs, selling drugs, prostituting themselves to get money to buy drugs, stealing to get money to buy drugs," Mason said.

One woman was so impressed by the change in one of her son's friends that she made her own son turn himself into the law.

"The woman brought her son to the police station and made him confess to some minor drug possession charges on the understanding he would come up before me, just so he could get in the program," Mason said.

And while the judge was preaching to the converted Saturday at the MUM conference, aimed to promote TM as a way for US schools to tackle school violence, the establishment has begun to take note.

Just last month, Mason, his colleagues on the bench and some program graduates were asked to share their experiences with a panel of state lawmakers seeking alternatives to incarceration. *AFP*

US to sell Taiwan Apache helicopters, high-tech tank

TAIPEI—The United States has agreed "in principle" to arm the Taiwanese military with AH-64D Apache attack helicopters and the equivalent of the sophisticated M1-A2 battle tank, a report said Monday.

The United Daily News said Washington plans to sell Taiwan a similar model to the M1-A2, the most sophisticated main battle tanks now serving the US Army, to boost the island's anti-landing capability.

It said the plans came to light when a US military team visited the island in September to assess the Taiwanese Army's combat capability.

"They also brought with them concrete arms sales plans," an Army source said, quoted by the paper.

It estimated the Apaches will join the Taiwan Army in 2005.

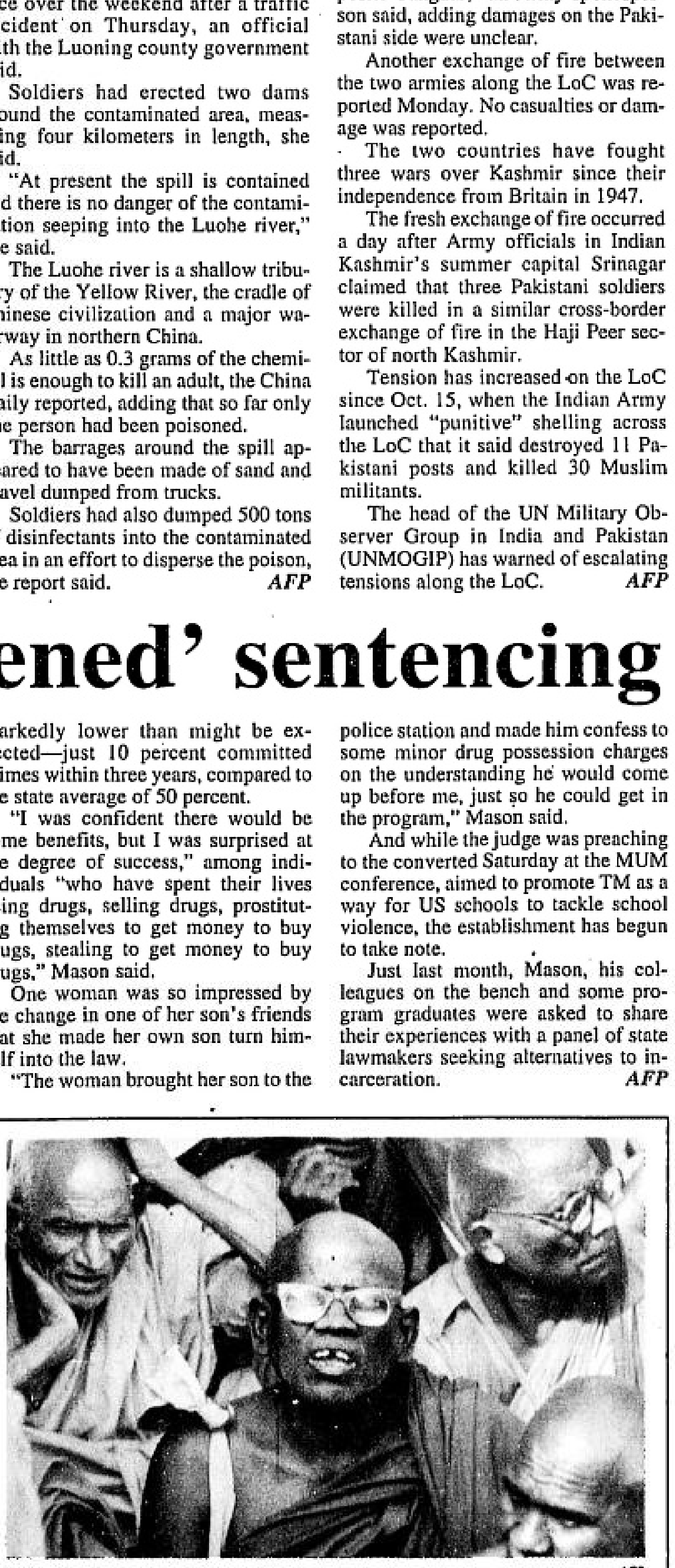
If the deal is agreed, the Army will have to postpone other major projects such as the purchase of new transportation helicopters to replace its ageing UH-1H fleet, the paper said.

Washington announced in April the most comprehensive arms package to Taipei since 1992, including four Kidd-class destroyers, eight diesel submarines and 12 P-3C submarine-hunting aircraft.

That deal, which infuriated Taiwan's rival China, followed a two-year US review of Taiwanese air force and naval capabilities.

But the US put off a decision on Taiwan's request to be given AH-64D helicopters and M1-A2 battle tanks.

Critics have said Taiwan does not need the costly Apache and M1-A2s as the Army already operates a fleet of AH-1H Super Cobra attack helicopters and the island's mountainous terrain is too difficult for the 70-ton tank. *AFP*



SPREADING THE FAITH AFP

Buddhist monks sit together ahead of a mass ceremony for dalits, low-caste Hindus, who are converting to Buddhism Nov. 4 in New Delhi. Thousands of low-caste Hindus took part in a ceremony to embrace the Buddhist faith.

Across the NATION

TONY BERGONIA, Assistant Editor

Lower housing payment pushed

By Ayan C. Mellejor
PDI Mindanao Bureau

DAVAO CITY—Despite strong resistance from housing agencies, a solon said he was determined to push a bill that fixes the monthly housing loan amortization to P1,000 for families to be able to save more for food and other basic needs.

Rep. Prospero Nograles, a member of the committee on housing, said he realizes that the "Abot Kaya Bayaran" housing program would affect the government's return on investments in the development of housing.

"But it is useless to set monthly payments to P2,000, P3,000 or P4,000 when the people cannot even pay it religiously," he said.

Nograles' setting the amortization at a rate affordable to most borrowers would also do away with foreclosures.

He said that in Davao City alone, some 15,000 housing units have been foreclosed and 6,800 of these are amortized from Pag-Ibig because their owners could not pay.

Nograles said the practical amortization should be P1,000 per month so that families can have more money for food.

He said his proposal have been met by resistance from government agencies reasoning out that government stands to lose huge amounts.

"But for practical purposes, we'd better collect P1,000 . . . religious payment . . . rather (than) impose a higher monthly amortization from somebody who cannot pay," Nograles said.

He said if there are 500,000 housing borrowers nationwide and each pays P1,000 per month, government would earn P500 million, which it could then bankroll for more housing projects.

"In any amortization, one can only afford to set aside 15 percent of his income for housing," Nograles told reporters here on Friday. He explained that people find it difficult paying 40 percent of their income. It is more realistic if amortization is pegged at 15 percent.

"I would rather see government lose a little for housing than lose money to graft and corruption," he added.

Nograles said there is social bias in government housing programs. He added government should not be profit-oriented.

"Government housing program is not a business. It has a Constitutional mandate to provide shelter to the people," he said.

Aside from authoring the bill that would reduce the monthly amortization, Nograles said he is also slated to file two more bills that would benefit those who availed themselves of housing loans.

One of them seeks the creation of a Housing and Urban Department and the other seeks to extend the housing condonation law.

Nograles said both proposals are now with housing secretary Michael Defensor for study.

Pimentel to look at budget

DAVAO CITY—Senate Minority leader Aquilino Pimentel said he would scrutinize next year's national budget of P780 billion to see whether there is substantial allocation for Mindanao.

Pimentel said he would also look closely at the budget allocation for the rehabilitation of areas affected by the armed conflicts.

The House of Representatives already approved the budget amid charges of illegality that resulted to a walkout by members of the minority block.

Pimentel said that once the budget is forwarded to the Senate, the opposition would also scrutinize its other features.

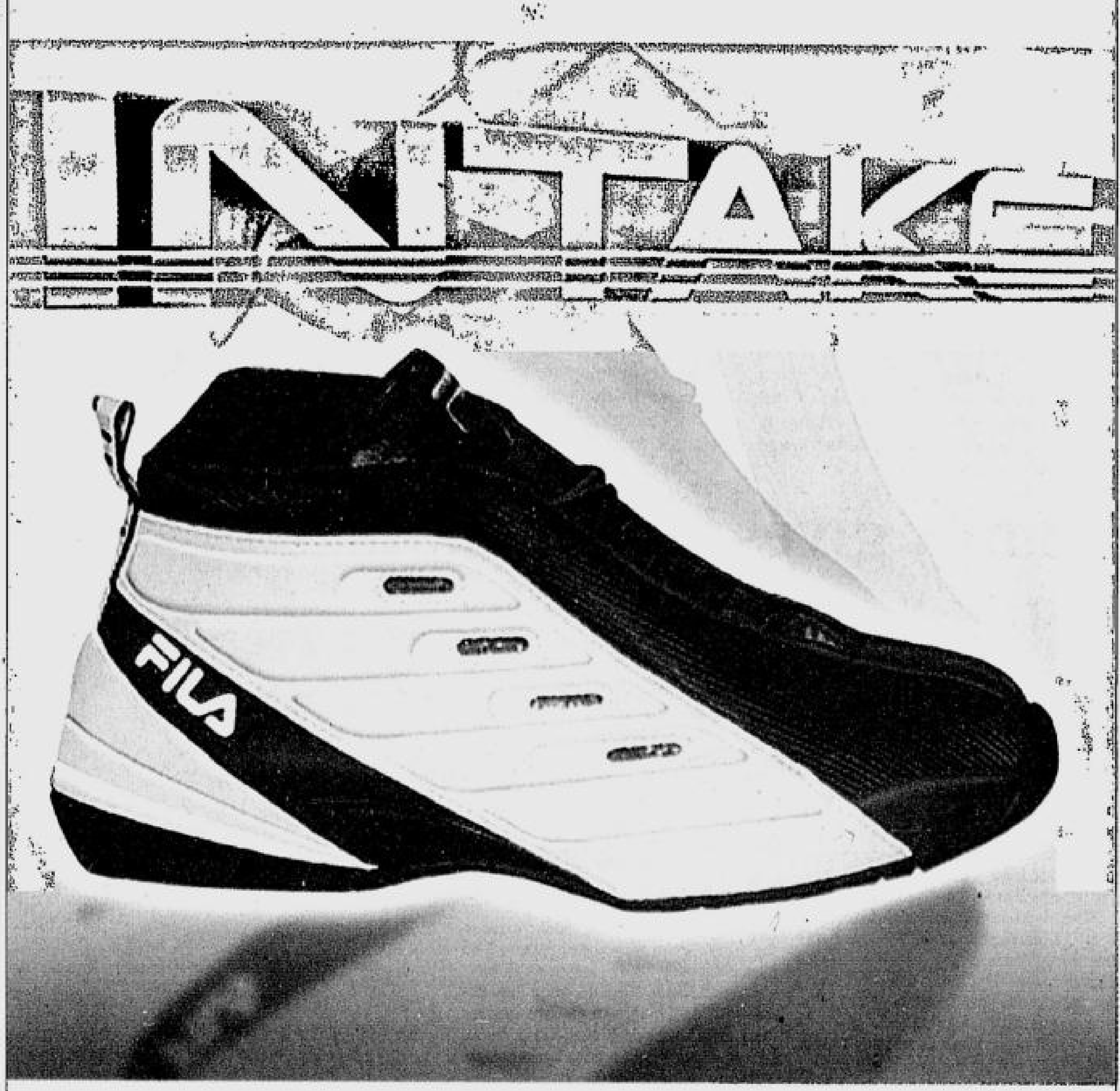
But he would not know whether opposition senators would do the way of their counterparts in the House.

"I don't know if it will be scrutinized more minutely. There are many opposition in the Senate. But we are not bound by what transpired in the House," Pimentel told reporters here.

Pimentel said despite calls from Mindanaoans for a fair allocation of the national budget especially on agriculture and infrastructure, Luzon and Metro Manila still get the biggest chunks.

The senator also finds it crucial to know how the government would use the intelligence funds for Mindanao and what kind of preparation it was undertaking in the light of the international terrorism.

Ayan Mellejor, PDI Mindanao Bureau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CITIBANK

SME firms in La Union reject wage hike

SAN FERNANDO CITY—Small and medium-scale business groups in La Union rejected any uniform increase in wages of private sector employees being proposed in Congress.

They said there are "unique economic conditions and problems (being) experienced by the different localities."

The Filipino-Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry of La Union, the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of La Union, the La Union Cottage Industry Producers Inc., the La Union Furniture and Woodcarvers Association, the La Union Horticultural Society and the La Union Crafts and More Association also threw their support behind the Regional Tripartite Wages and Productivity Board (RTWPB).

They said the board was "the proper authority tô decide any wage increase applicable to (the region)."

In a position paper submitted to the Department of Labor and Employment, the SME (small- and medium-scale enterprises) groups argued that the petition of some labor groups for a P125 across-the-board daily wage increase is "utterly steep for the local businessmen."

Imposing the wage adjustment would "lead to a chain of negative after effects" to the local economy such as the closure of small businesses, the loss of jobs, an increase in the prices of goods and the further marginalization of the unemployed sectors, the groups said.

They added that local businessmen have complied with the three rounds of wage increases for the past consecutive years.

But since businesses "have not enjoyed a favorable economic environment for some time, they do not have much elbowroom" to accommodate a wage hike, they added.

According to RTWPB data of 2000, about 40 percent of workers in the Ilocos are in the agriculture, fishery and forestry sectors; 16 percent are in wholesale and retail; and 27 percent are in various services.

Of the businesses registered with the Department of Trade and Industry last year, more than 93 percent are in service and trading and only 6.4 percent are in manufacturing.

Members of the Confederation for Unity, Recognition and Advancement of Government Employees (Courage) gathered at the People's Hall here Friday to signify their support for the proposal to legislate a P3,000 across-the-board increase in the salaries of government workers nationwide. It also solicited support for a P125 across-the-board wage hike for private sector workers.

During a consultation meeting with business and labor groups here recently, RTWPB Chair Maximo Lim did not discount the possibility of adjusting wages in December, when the latest wage order shall have been in effect for a full year. *Gia Damaso Dumo, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

Family gives land to poor of Jaro, Iloilo

By Hazel P. Villa
PDI Visayas Bureau

ILOILO CITY—To be so rich and be so giving.

This is what the children of the late Doña Monserrat Gamboa-Hechanova, a family of philanthropists here, are all about when they decided to donate to urban poor families a tract of land currently valued at P43 million.

The deed of donation transferring 21,913 square meters or 2.2 hectares of the family land at San Isidro Village, Barangay MV Hechanova in Jaro District to 82 urban poor families was signed in a ceremony on Monday evening by engineer Ramon Hechanova, the representative of the Hechanova family.

Each of the 82 families who lived at San Isidro Village since 1973 received donated lots measuring from 152 to 336 square meters.

"There are conditions to the donation—one of which is that the land should not be sold or leased to any person without the consent of the Hechanovas. Ownership can be transferred only through hereditary succession," said lawyer Neil Oliver Tungala, legal counsel of the San Isidro Village Homeowners Multi-Purpose Cooperative, whose members are beneficiaries of the donation.

Pay taxes

The Deed of Donation also stated that San Isidro Village should remain a "Catholic residential Community," and that residents should pay taxes and follow building zones.

Hechanova, 72, elder brother of the late Redemptorist priest Fr. Louie Hechanova, told the INQUIRER that the property recently donated to urban poor families was part of the 49-hectares family property which his mother subdivided in 1973. Part of the land was turned into a residential lot for their workers.

"Our mother said this land we have donated is solely for residential purposes and as long as we live, it should not be sold to others whose families have not served the Hechanovas," said Ramon.

Ramon's parents, Dr. Manuel Villalobos Hechanova and Doña Monserrat Gamboa-Hechanova, are natives of Jaro, Iloilo. They also own vast landholdings in Iloilo, Silay City and Negros Occidental.

Jaro was "demoted" to being a district upon the creation of Iloilo City during the American period, said Ramon.

The Hechanovas have nine children, all of whom were educated in Ateneo de Manila for elementary education and the University of Sto. Tomas for higher learning.

The eldest is the late Jose Mari who took care of the family hacienda in Negros Occidental. Ramon currently represents the Hechanovas in social functions and runs the Monserrat Realty Development Corp. Rafael is a retired architect.

The current residents of San Isidro Village who number about 500 are the second and third generations of families who have worked for the Hechanovas in the 1950s when they were still engaged in rice farming.

According to Ramon, when they decided in 1973 to turn the 49-hectare riceland into Gran Plains Subdivision, their workers were asked to leave or stay.

Those who decided to stay lived free of rent in Lot 32, Block 1—commonly known as San Isidro Village but they were not exempted from paying realty taxes to City Hall as mandated by law.

Long time

Ramon said it took a long time for the Hechanova family to transfer the deed of donation to the residents of San Isidro Village after Doña Monserrat died in 1986 because of the residents' bickering as to "ownership" and their nonpayment of realty taxes.

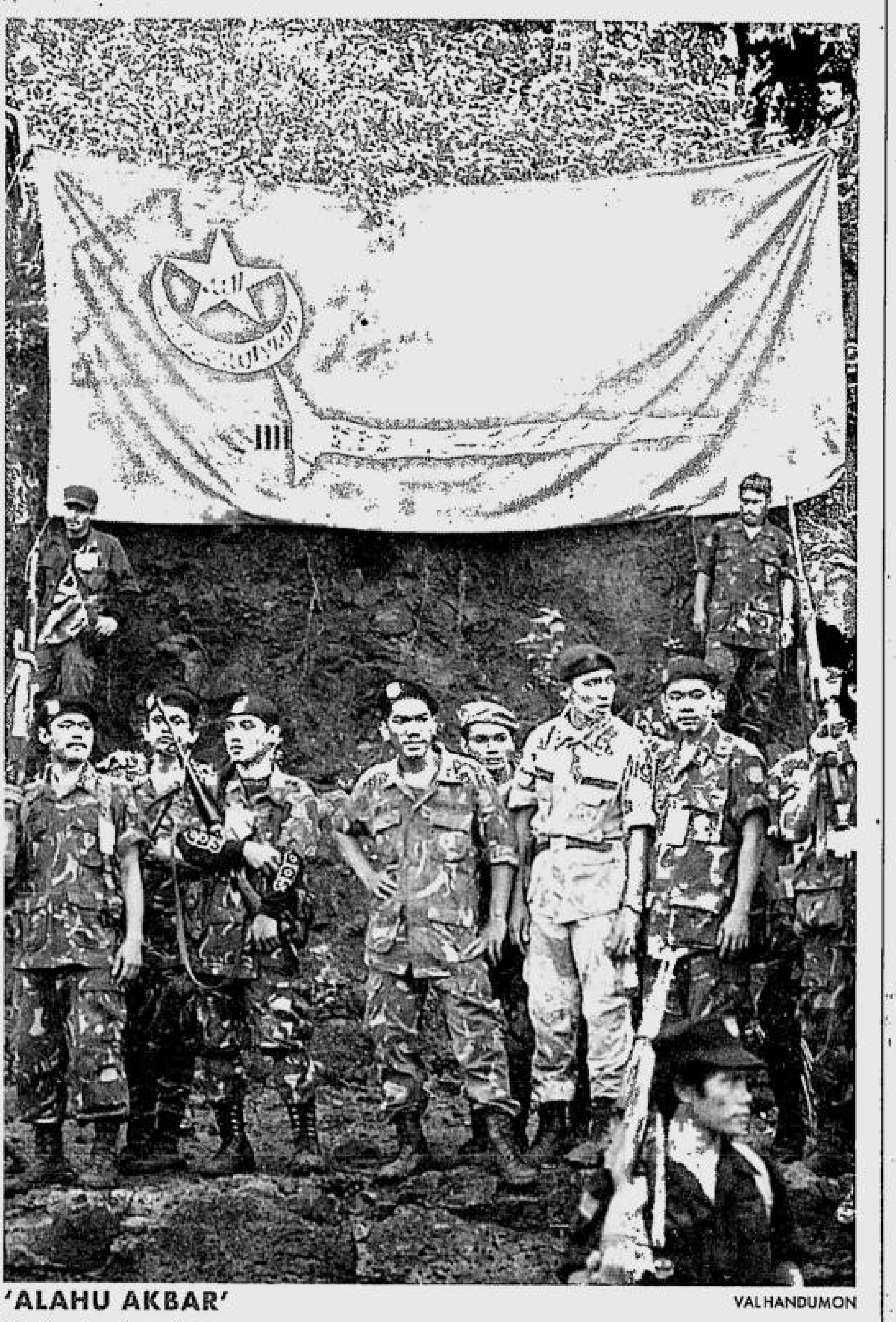
Ramon said that some elders insisted that Doña Monserrat verbally promised them 1,000 square meters each and were averse to the "measly" donations of several hundred square meters each.

"Some residents do not agree with what they have received despite the fact that their children get 200 to 300 square meters each. They are also inter-related to other families here," added Tungala.

Ramon said that since some residents refused to pay realty tax, the Iloilo City government threatened in 1998 to auction off the land because it had arrears that amounted to more than P120,000.

"They now pay realty taxes quarterly after I said I would rather give the land to the National Housing Authority if they kept on with their ways," said Ramon, who also chairs the Chamber of Real Estate Builders Association-Iloilo Chapter.

Despite the different outlook of some of their elders, Hearty Ledesma, vice chair of the San Isidro Village Homeowners Multi-Purpose Cooperative, said they are very grateful to the Hechanovas for the donation that would certainly give peace of mind to the younger generations of residents.



'ALAHU AKBAR' VALHANDUMON

Muslim freedom fighters attend the 5th Bangsa Moro National Congress of the Moro National Liberation Front in Silangka, Parang, Jolo, Sulu last Saturday. (See story on Page 3).

Militant labor shunned from wage consultation

NAGA CITY—A militant labor group claimed that the Regional Tripartite Wages and Productivity Board in Bicol had not informed them of the consultation aimed at determining the wage increase, which was set yesterday.

Mar Regachuelo, regional coordinator of the Kilusang Mayo Uno (KMU) in Bicol, said the RTWPB failed to inform them of the consultation and that it was intentionally done to avoid getting the position of the militant labor.

Regachuelo said they are pushing for a P125 across-the-board wage increase and condemned the RTWPB action as short of disenfranchising the group in its bid for a "just" increase in wages.

He added that the RTWPB should now be abolished because of its selective way of hearing the positions of different labor groups even as he said that the wage body only serves the interest of the management.

The wages consultation had to be started at exactly 1:30 p.m. yesterday, while Glenda Manalo, RTWPB chair and regional director of the Department of Labor and Employment (Dole), was still not around to preside over the consultation scheduled at 1 p.m.

But an inquiry from the secretariat of the consultation, the personnel who were involved in the preparation, said the KMU should have known that there was a consultation because the information was broadcast on television and radio stations.

The personnel, who declined to be named, said the RTWPB secretariat had sent invitations to the companies with unions and that they expected that the communication had already reached the KMU.

They said they expected that the management in which the communication for consultation was addressed should have contacted the labor unions.

Bicol region is among the regions that have yet to determine the workers' wage increase through the RTWPB.

The last increase was implemented on Nov. 1 last year.

The present wages in Bicol are P182 a day for nonagricultural workers in the cities of Legazpi and Naga; P175 in the cities of Iriga and Tabaco and in the towns of Pili and Daraga; and in other areas of Bicol, the RTWPB pegged P170.

Juan Escandor Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Gloria: 'Same as Estrada'

SOLANO, Nueva Vizcaya—For the House minority, everything about the country's present condition is the same as during the administration of deposed President Joseph Estrada. Except for one thing—the country now has a different president.

"The situation is fairly the same. You remove the President from the picture, and you get a rather similar scenario," House Minority Floor Leader Carlos Padilla said here on Saturday.

Padilla, who represents the lone district of Nueva Vizcaya, gave the assessment amid views that President Macapagal-Arroyo's net popularity rating has dipped due to her administration's "poor" performance, based on the latest survey by the Ibon Databank and Research Center.

Results of the Ibon study conducted Oct. 1-27 showed Ms Macapagal had a net approval rating of 19.2 percent in Metro Manila.

At least 52.3 percent of the respondents said they were satisfied with the performance of the Macapagal-Arroyo administration, while 33.1 percent were not satisfied.

Some 56 percent said the economy has worsened.

Padilla said this is contrary to the expectations of people who supported Edsa II and called for Estrada's ouster.

"When (Estrada) was the President, people were convinced that if he (is) removed, we will bring back investors' confidence," he said. "But how come that now that GMA (Ms Macapagal) is the President, it's still the same?"

"Foreign exchange is in bad shape, the budget deficit is still there, unemployment is increasing and the economy is really down," he added.

The peace and order situation is neither getting better, Padilla noted.

"The PNP (Philippine National Police) reported that kidnapping cases this year increased by 47 percent from January to June, and, if media reports are to be believed, kidnapping even worsened during the second semester," he explained.

"From the economy, then we still have the Abu Sayyaf (problem) and again, jueteng."

Padilla said jueteng is a "legitimate concern" that the government should now address.

He noted that the jueteng issue was used as a rallying point to overthrow Estrada. "Are we saying now that we can already allow jueteng because Erap is gone?" *Melvin Gascon, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Southern Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao will experience cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms becoming widespread over Eastern Visayas and Northeastern Mindanao. The rest of the country will be partly cloudy to at times cloudy with isolated rainshowers and thunderstorms.

SOURCE: PAGASA

Metro Manila	Partly Cloudy	HI 33° Lo 23°
Baguio	Partly Cloudy	HI 27° Lo 15°
Tuguegarao	Partly Cloudy	HI 33° Lo 20°
Laoag	Partly Cloudy	HI 34° Lo 23°
Clark Zone	Partly Cloudy	HI 32° Lo 22°
Tagaytay	Partly Cloudy	HI 30° Lo 20°
Legazpi	Cloudy with Rains	HI 32° Lo 23°
Calapan	Cloudy with Rains	HI 32° Lo 23°
Bacolod	Cloudy with Rains	HI 32° Lo 25°
Roxas	Cloudy with Rains	HI 32° Lo 25°
Cebu	Cloudy with Rains	HI 32° Lo 25°
Tacloban	Cloudy with Rains	HI 32° Lo 25°
Gen. Santos	Cloudy with Rains	HI 31° Lo 24°
Zamboanga	Cloudy with Rains	HI 32° Lo 25°
Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with Rains	HI 31° Lo 22°
Davao	Cloudy with Rains	HI 32° Lo 24°

Compiled by: Ray Leyesa, PDI Research/11/06/01

ROUNDUP

12 injured in collision

SAN PABLO CITY—Two passengers were seriously injured and 10 others slightly hurt when a passenger jeep collided with a Toyota utility vehicle on All Souls' Day in Barangay San Vicente here. Police identified those seriously hurt as Saturnina Dical, 45, who sustained a broken right leg, and her 2-year-old grandson Celedonio Manalo Jr. who is in critical condition. Police said the jeepney driver was trying to overtake another vehicle when it smashed into an oncoming Toyota vehicle.

Romulo Ponte, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Man stabbed dead

ILOILO CITY—A 25-year-old man was found dead on All Souls' Day with multiple stab and slash wounds. Rey Sartorio, a resident of Dumarao, Capiz was found lying down in a ricefield in Barangay Cabanbanan, Oton town. Police said the victim was on his way to a store on an errand when waylaid. Insp. Bonifacio Capanas, Oton police chief, said personal grudge, and not robbery, was the likely motive because the victim was found clutching money in one of his hands.

Nestor Burgos Jr., PDI Visayas Bureau

Vendors' protection

CEBU CITY—Vendors are now protected with the passage into law of Executive Order 452. Gerry Marquez, consultant for Cebu City's Division for the Welfare of Urban Poor, said the EO guarantees them their right to their vending stalls. The new law allows vendors to register with the city government, which will issue them identification cards.

Debra Jane Magallon, PDI Visayas Bureau

Firearms returned

CATBALOGAN, Samar—Seven former members of the New People's Army in Samar and Leyte have availed of the Balik Baril Program, according to records at the Philippine Army's 8th Infantry Division here. Maj. Jefferson Omandam, officer-in-charge of the 8th ID Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff for Civil Military Operations, said the ex-rebels returned 12 firearms and received almost P250,000 in cash rewards and livelihood projects.

Cynthia Borgueta, PDI Visayas Bureau

Ex-rebels slain

CAMP GENERAL ALEJO SANTOS, Bulacan—Two former top officials of a leftist armed group were killed while two others were arrested after a shootout with policemen in Barangay Kamias, San Miguel town on Wednesday. Police identified the fatalities as Enrique Mangaluz, 45, leader of a breakaway group of the Hukbong Mapagpalaya ng Bayan, and his deputy Rocky Maon, 40. Their companions, Romeo Gallo, 38, and Rudy Ancheta, 41, were arrested by the police.

Carmela Reyes, PDI Central Luzon Desk

Landfill reso nixed

BAGAC, Bataan—Residents of this coastal town have asked the municipal council to declare null and void a resolution allowing the establishment of sanitary landfill project in Barangay Quinawan. The group Mamamayan Laban sa Basura, petitioned the local government to reject the proposed project that would host Metro Manila's garbage. They claimed that no public hearing was held before endorsing the project in March.

Greg Refraccion, PDI Central Luzon Desk

Ex-village chair shot dead

DAVAO CITY—A suspected member of the New People's Army's sparrow unit gunned down the former barangay captain of Anonang, Bansalan, Davao del Sur on Thursday. Feliciano Loma, 50, was on his way home around 7 p.m. when the suspect blocked his path and shot him four times. Police said the slain executive had a hard line position against the NPA. NPA rebels are also blamed for the death of Rogelio Bernal, barangay captain of Mabuhay, Paquibato District here last Monday.

Anthony Allada, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Jealousy kills cop

DAVAO CITY—Police here have established that jealousy was the reason behind the killing of PO3 Luis Cantaros, 35, of the Special Antiterrorist Unit. Investigators said Cantaros was with the reported estranged wife of PO3 Francisco Cuarez, of the Police Regional Mobile Group XI when the latter saw the two alighting from a motorcycle. Cuarez approached and asked if the victim was her new lover and reportedly hit her hard on the face. Cantaros tried to escape but Cuarez shot him.

Dennis Jay Santos, PDI Mindanao Bureau

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"Babies will no longer die in infancy, and all people will live out their life span. Those who live to be a hundred will be considered young... People will build houses and get to live in them - they will not be used by someone else. They will plant vineyards and enjoy the wine - it will not be drunk by others... People will live long lives. They will fully enjoy the things that they have worked for. The work that they do will be successful, and their children will not meet with disaster... Wolves and lambs will eat together; lion will eat straw, as cattle do, and snakes will no longer be dangerous... there will be nothing harmful or evil (Isaiah 65:20-25)."

This is our vision. What's yours?

We can change lives ... if we choose to

EDUCATION FOR ALL CHILDREN

Education is a fundamental right of every child. Without education, a child would be deprived of the most important opportunities in life. World Vision puts children to school. It also helps communities build schools and other educational facilities.

HEALTHCARE IN EVERY BARANGAY

About 130,000 Filipino children below 5 years old die every year of preventable diseases. Through child sponsorship, World Vision children receive immunization, proper nutrition and annual medical and dental check-up. It also provides their parents training in hygiene, nutrition, first aid, and diagnosis and treatment of simple diseases.

CLEAN WATER FOR ALL

Clean water is a basic necessity – for drinking, hygiene, cooking and irrigation. World Vision, with the help of child sponsors and government aid, helps communities obtain clean water. Furthermore, it trains people in the communities to maintain their water systems to make them sustainable.

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Disaster situations occur everywhere. The poor and those who live in remote provinces in the Philippines, however, are always the hardest hit because they have little infrastructure and services for support. When Mayon Volcano erupted last June, thousands were displaced and livelihood and properties were destroyed. World Vision, with the generous support of child sponsors and donors, rapidly responded with food, survival kits, shelter and clean water for the affected families.

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More than 4 million Filipino between 5-17 years old do not go to school. Instead, they work in menial, hazardous and dehumanizing jobs. World Vision Child Sponsorship provides education for children who otherwise could not afford it. It also helps families increase their income so their children can go to school and not to work.

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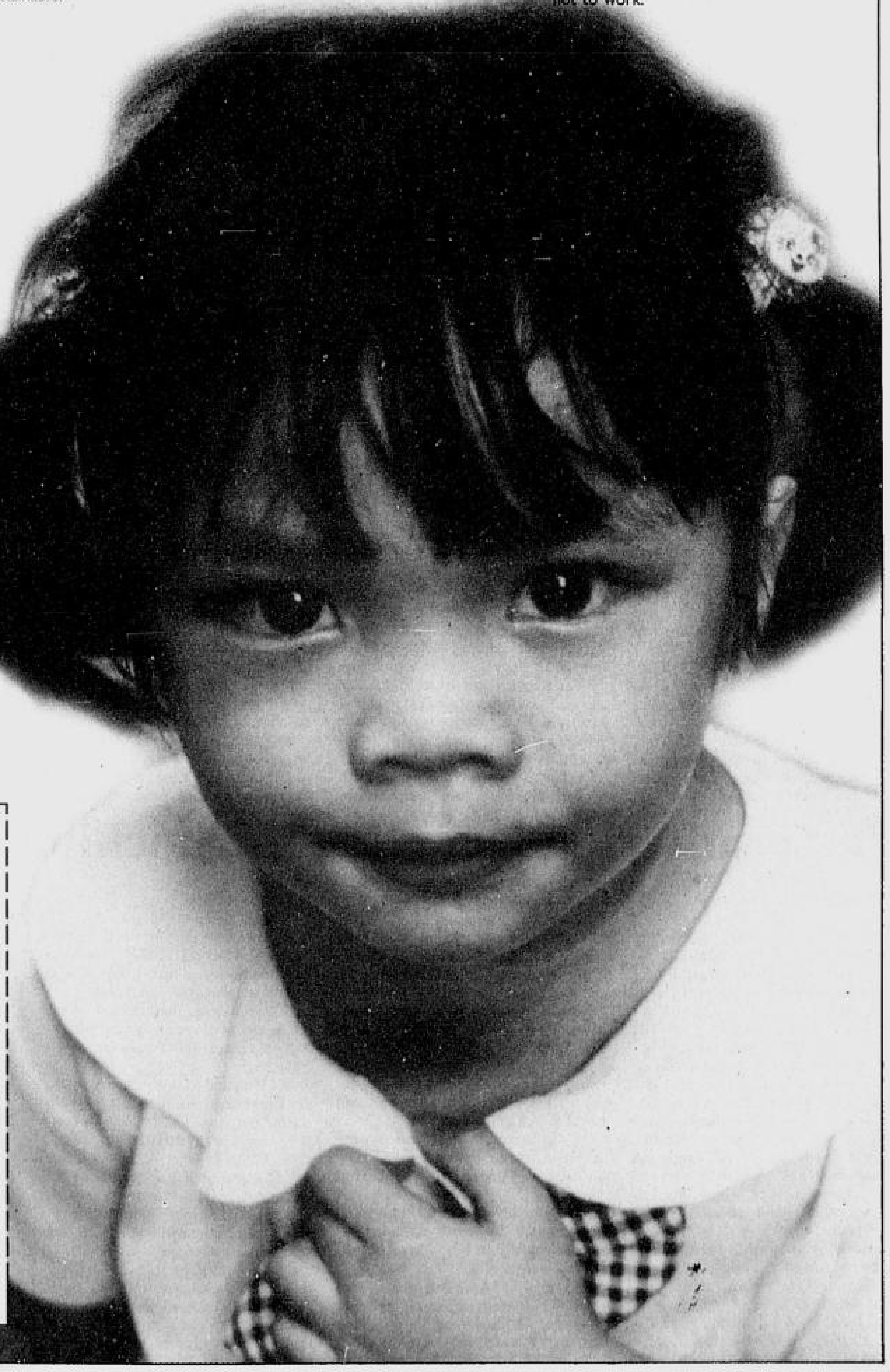

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Badoy 'often absent, liar, incompetent'

(From page A1)

and invariably comes very late. In the meantime, cases are postponed," the Sandiganbayan presiding justice said of Badoy in the letter.

In a phone interview from Davao City, Garchitorena revealed that it was Badoy's two colleagues in the third division, Justices Teresita Leonardo de Castro and Ricardo Ilarde, who complained that Badoy was remiss in handling cases, not just the Estrada plunder charge.

Garchitorena said Ilarde had even "suggested" that Badoy "take a leave of absence."

"*Mukhang di mo na kaya, Jun (Badoy). Ano kaya kung mag-leave of absence ka na* (It appears that you cannot properly handle the case. What if you take a leave)?" Garchitorena quoted Ilarde as saying.

This ran counter to what Badoy had claimed earlier. He said his two fellow justices, "as far as I can see, were not biting" when Garchitorena tried to enlist their support in pressuring him to resign.

As to De Castro's complaint against Badoy, Garchitorena said: "She accused Badoy of telling lies to them" whenever they were waiting for him to arrive for their meetings, among justices or with litigants.

Quoting De Castro, Garchitorena said Badoy would "lie" about his true location on his way to the courtroom and his reasons for being late.

Garchitorena said what Ilarde and De Castro had raised against Badoy concerned his "work ethic."

"I think he wants to concentrate on the (Estrada) plunder trial and is thinking of ways to ignore the other cases. On the other hand, he doesn't seem to be handling pending matters regarding the plunder case," Garchitorena said.

Destiny

"*Para sa kanya parang iginuhit ng tadhana na siya dapat ang hahawak sa kasong 'yon* (For him, his handling the plunder case was his destiny)," he told the INQUIRER.

In his turn to be interviewed on radio, Badoy expressed dismay that Garchitorena went public on matters still in the "confidential phase."

"Let him face the Supreme Court for that," he said.

Badoy indicated that it was Garchitorena who fired the first shot and that he was only retaliating when he called for press conference last Sunday.

"He was the one who first brought it up outside the Sandiganbayan," he said. He declined to elaborate unless ordered by the Supreme Court, puzzling radio anchors.

Court observers believe that Badoy took offense when Garchitorena spoke negatively of Badoy in a letter to Davide, who had asked Garchitorena to comment on Badoy's request for additional personnel.

At around 10 a.m., two hours after the phone interview, Garchitorena ordered his office to distribute to the press, copies of his letter to Davide.

It was in an apparent sign of exasperation on Garchitorena's part.

Garchitorena maintained that Badoy "does not need" more people on his staff.

As reported by De Castro and Ilarde, Badoy "does not prepare the orders and matters to be resolved (even if drafts are already sent to him.) He appears to have penned only a few resolutions. He obviously does not use the present stenographers very much," Garchitorena said in his letter to Davide.

Badoy has been allowed by the Supreme Court to "sleep in his chambers" at the Sandiganbayan because of the plunder case, but "he is hardly here in the daytime, much to the embarrassment of his fellow justices and to the chagrin of the parties whose cases are postponed late in the afternoon because he has not told his fellow justices that he cannot or will not come to court."

The letter mentioned a legal researcher assigned to Badoy who later asked to be transferred "because he was not given any work and was instead made to do things totally unrelated to his legal work—and things quite demeaning to this researcher."

Like father, like daughter

Badoy's executive assistant, his daughter Christine Marie Sanchez, "does not report to work when he (her father) does not report, and who, I understand, hardly comes to office even when Justice Badoy is present," Garchitorena said in the letter.

"There is hardly any legal activity in the courtroom; and apparently none in Justice Badoy's chambers. His fellow members in the division do not understand how he will need the additional staff," the Sandiganbayan presiding justice said.

Despite the letter being made public, Badoy kept to his chamber and did not give any reaction to Sandiganbayan reporters.

In his morning interviews, however, he said he would wait for the Supreme Court to step in and allow him to speak fully about his rift with Garchitorena.

"I'm sure Presiding Justice Garchitorena will be flabbergasted (when I start talking)," Badoy said.

In Davao City, Garchitorena arrived yesterday morning at the Aquino Hall of Justice for Sandiganbayan hearings. He is scheduled to leave Saturday. But he said he was willing to go to Manila before Saturday if the Supreme Court told him to settle "differences in the Sandiganbayan."

Garchitorena said he believed Badoy, whom he described as a man of "great judicial experience," would not relinquish his position.

Interviewed yesterday at the Sandiganbayan at the resumption of the trial on the plunder charge against him, Estrada refused to comment on what he described as "an internal matter" between Badoy and Garchitorena.

Estrada's lawyer Rene Saguisag said the defense panel had filed motions citing Badoy's perceived bias against Estrada. The motion did not delve into Badoy's competence as an associate justice.

The public quarrel between Badoy and Garchitorena is seen by observers as undermining the court handling the first ever criminal prosecution of a former Philippine president. ***With reports from Anthony Allada and Dennis Jay Santos, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

Erap trial back to square 1, thanks to endless objections

BY VOLT CONTRERAS

IT was supposed to be a resumption of Joseph Estrada's plunder trial, but thanks to the seemingly endless objections from his lawyers, it was practically back to square one yesterday.

Prosecution's first witness, Belle Corp. vice chair Willie Ng Ocier, was made to repeat what he had already told the court on Oct. 1, the start of the trial which Estrada lawyers did not attend.

Ocier was able to take the witness stand at 4:15 p.m., two hours after the trial commenced, because Estrada lawyers led by former Justice Secretary Serafin Cuevas raised issues which he said merit "a reasonable delay" in the trial.

By 5 p.m., Ocier, on his return to the witness stand for direct examination by Chief State Prosecutor Jovencito Zuño, only managed to discuss Belle Corp. business profile.

Ocier's testimony has yet to dwell on how Estrada earned P189.7 million from the sale of Belle Corp. shares using funds from the Social Security System and the Government Service Insurance System.

During his proffer of evidence, Zuño said Ocier's testimony would prove, among others, that the Belle transactions "only pushed through when the witness agreed that accused Estrada will get a commission."

Ocier admitted that he was the second cousin of Jaime Dichaves, a Belle board member and friend of Estrada, who was recently added among the plunder respondents.

Zuño said it was Dichaves who "arranged" the purchase of Belle shares by SSS and GSIS.

The defense panel's objections first dealt with issues questioning the validity of having a replacement judge joining the trial yesterday, namely Justice Rodolfo Palatao, who sat in for Justice Ricardo who was on leave.

Other objections, which drew hisses and soft boos from Plunder Watch members in the courtroom, stemmed from contentions that the trial should not proceed until Dichaves was arraigned.

More objections concerned the court's Sept. 13 pre-trial order containing the case's stipulated facts, which the defense counsels did not sign for allegedly containing flawed entries.

The defense panel also ate up the court's time by demanding that it resolve its objections to plunder hearings being held three days a week.

Badoy was forced to gather defense lawyers in a huddle just to get their individual schedules and open dates.

In the end, Badoy finally managed to put Ocier back at the stand, complaining: "It's already 4:15, let's proceed!"

The plunder trial resumes tomorrow at 1 p.m. Badoy said the court would decide before the hearing whether Estrada would be required to appear again,

Erap camp blamed for oust-Badoy maneuvers

(From page A1)

Akbayan Rep. Loretta Rosales asked Badoy and Garchitorena to "get their acts together," saying that the trial of Estrada might be affected by their squabbling.

"The last thing that we want is for the Sandiganbayan justices to be fighting each other and adding to the perceived ineptness of the anti-graft court system," Rosales said.

Ombudsman Aniano Desierto, chief prosecutor in corruption cases involving government officials, also said that the dispute "might affect the administration of justice."

Demolition job

Casiño said the plan to absolve Estrada also involved a "demolition job" with the spread of negative information against Badoy to "blackmail him into quitting."

"The other moves include the motion to inhibit Badoy from the plunder case earlier filed by Estrada's lawyers and the unbecoming conduct of the defense panel in Badoy's courtroom during hearings to make it appear that he is not in control of the court," said Casiño, who was in Iloilo yesterday during the launching of Plunder Watch-Panay chapter.

Other civil society groups rallied behind Badoy as calls for the Supreme Court to investigate Badoy's allegation mounted.

The militant fisherfolk group Pamalakaya urged President Macapagal-Arroyo to "explain" if the pressure to remove Badoy was part of her administration's plan to acquit Estrada.

SC urged to probe spat

Justice Secretary Hernando Perez has asked Chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr. to investigate the accusations hurled by Badoy against Garchitorena.

"The investigation will dispel any rumor of wrongdoing," Perez said.

Perez said that his fellow prosecutors in the plunder trial of Estrada were shocked over Badoy's allegation.

The high court, however, is not keen on stepping into the intramurals at the Sandiganbayan.

"We'll wait for a formal complaint or request before we can act," said, deputy court administrator Ismael Khan, who heads the Supreme Court's Public Information Office.

In the House of Representatives, Deputy Speaker Raul Gonzalez called for a probe of the "serious" charges hurled by Badoy against Garchitorena.

Gonzalez said that the squabbling between the two justices "would affect the (judicial) process" and shake further the "confidence of the public" in the courts.

"There must be a reason. Either (Garchitorena) wants to take over (Badoy's position) or put Badoy in a bad light for whatever reason," he said.

Badoy could have been "under tremendous pressure" so he decided to go public, lawyer Leonard de Vera of the Equal Justice For All Movement said.

"He would not have gone out in the open if he was not feeling the heat," De Vera said.

"For sure, he had been approached by colleagues, brothers from his fraternity and other many others, asking many different favors in connection with the cases that he is handling," De Vera said.

In a radio interview in Cebu, Cleofe Versola, one of Estrada's lawyers, said they had nothing to do with the controversy involving Badoy and Garchitorena.

"It's a matter between them (Badoy and Garchitorena). It's internal and administrative," Versola said.

She said it was unfair to insinuate that Estrada would benefit if Badoy resigned as chair of the third division.

"If Badoy resigns, the case will go on. It is going to be raffled off in the Sandiganbayan. It does not necessarily mean that Justice Garchitorena will get the case. It could be other justices," Versola said.

Plunder law

De Vera asked the Supreme Court to dispel rumors that it would vote in favor of a petition filed by Estrada's lawyers to declare the plunder law unconstitutional for its supposed vagueness.

De Vera said he and his group were "greatly disturbed" by the rumors from Supreme Court insiders.

Reports said that Supreme Court justices were tied 6-6 over the constitutionality of the Plunder Law, with two other justices still undecided and a third most likely to inhibit, said Plunder Watch, a coalition formed by civil society and militant groups to monitor the prosecution of Estrada.

"We are afraid that the Estrada camp's effort to coerce, bribe or influence the justices—considering that it has a P500 million slush fund from the aborted power grab last May—will most likely result in a pro-Estrada decision declaring the Plunder Law either unconstitutional or vague," the group said.

Dr. Carol Araullo, Plunder Watch convenor, urged the justices not to be swayed by pressure and inducement from the Estrada camp.

"We call on them to make their decision not on the basis of loyalty to those who appointed them but on the basis of what is right and just and fair," Araullo said.

Plunder Watch warned that the reports, if true, would trigger mass actions similar to what happened when pro-Estrada senators voted against opening the second envelope in the aborted impeachment trial last January. ***With reports from Michael Lim Ubac, Christine O. Avendaño, Gerald G. Lacuarta and Christian V. Esguerra in Manila***

Estradas file new complaint against Badoy

(From page A1)

The complaint, reportedly filed Monday last week, could lead to the justices' removal from their posts and their disqualification from assuming any public position in the future.

The complaint cited Badoy and Associate Justice Teresita Leonardo-de Castro for alleged "oppression, misconduct and falsification."

Badoy chairs the third division while De Castro is one of its two member justices. The other member justice, Ricardo Ilarde, is set to retire shortly.

Basis for case

The INQUIRER learned from a source that the complaint stemmed mainly from three issues raised by the Estrada lawyers:

- That the third division, despite protests from the defense, sustained a false entry in its Sept. 13 pre-trial order that the Estradas acknowledged during the pre-trial conference the existence of prosecution's voluminous documentary evidence gathered from the aborted impeachment trial.
- That during the hearing on Sept. 13, Estrada lead counsel Rene Saguisag was unjustly "thrown out" of the court upon the orders of De Castro. In doing so, she allegedly "usurped" the authority of Badoy, the division chair.
- That during the controversial opening trial of the Estrada plunder case on Oct. 1, Badoy "violated" the Rules of Court by scheduling the hearing without consulting the defense panel, proceeding with the hearing despite the absence of Estrada counsels, and instantly appointing up to three sets of lawyers to represent the Estradas.

The complaint asked the Supreme Court to send over representatives to the third division to monitor its "tragicomic proceedings," the source said.

It also asked that the two justices be "disciplined" and removed from the plunder case if they would not do so voluntarily.

The Estrada lawyers had earlier filed two motions for Badoy's inhibition, which the justice both rejected.

Afterwards they elevated the matter to the Supreme Court by filing a petition for inhibition against Badoy. The petition is still pending, and is considered separate from the administrative complaint filed last week.

Asean airs concern . . .

(From page A1)

do with Asean's unprecedented expression of concern "for the welfare of innocent people as a result of military action in Afghanistan."

The leaders of the diverse 10-nation grouping that insists on consensus agreed to issue the statement in a meeting behind closed doors.

The statement came a day after the US forces stepped up the bombing campaign on Afghanistan, the base of Osama bin Laden who is accused of masterminding the Sept. 11 terrorist strikes that killed 5,000 people in the United States.

Brunei's Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah, who chaired the summit, said the Association of Southeast Asian Nations faced the biggest challenges in its 34-year history.

"The twofold challenge of addressing a severe world economic slowdown while contributing to international efforts to combat terrorism is without precedent," Bolkiah said in a closing statement.

A delicately worded joint statement that the Asean leaders issued after their working dinner on Sunday did not refer to the US retaliatory strikes on Afghanistan.

The statement "unequivocally" condemned the Sept. '11 terrorist strikes in the United States as "an attack against humanity and an assault on all of us."

It was one of the proposals of Ms Macapagal, who is making her Asean debut.

She said the statement also contained her three other proposals: an agreement by the Philippines, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand and Singapore on border security and intelligence sharing; the promotion of inter-faith dialogue; and the holding of multilateral simulation exercises against terrorist threats."

Ms Macapagal, who offered to host the counter-terrorist games, said she would call up Defense Secretary Angelo Reyes to make preparations.

Mahathir

In a news conference on Monday, Mahathir said Malaysia and Indonesia, the world's biggest Muslim country, felt that the US air strikes should stop, particularly during the Islamic holy month of Ramadan, which starts in mid-November.

"But others did not express strong views on that" during the talks, he said. Singapore and the Philippines have backed the US-led military strikes in Afghanistan.

"We defer on this and we prefer not to insist on that because there were some differences in our views," the 75-year-old elder statesman of the region added.

Mahathir said he brought up the issue of terrorism three times with the leaders.

"We emphasized the need to identify and define the terrorists and what terrorism is," he told reporters.

Mahathir said he tried to impress on fellow leaders the inefficiency of attacking Afghanistan with air strikes.

"It will result in a lot of civilian casualties. It will anger a lot of Muslims in the world. We cannot destroy the terrorists through carpet bombing," he said.

Malaysia has condemned the attacks on New York and Washington but also criticized the US retaliatory attacks in Afghanistan.

Mahathir warned that there would be growing opposition to the US action from both Muslim and non-Muslim nations.

"A lot of people all over the world are very unhappy over the civilian casualties. So far there is no evidence that the Taliban forces have been killed," he said.

Even so, officials sought to play down differences on the issue, saying these did not indicate a rift within the Asean.

"This declaration is all about Asean cooperation on terrorism, not about fighting in Afghanistan," said Asean Secretary General Rodolfo Severino.

Asean is torn between support for the United States, its largest trading partner, and sympathy for Muslims who make up more than half of the 500 million people in the region.

Economic plans

In his closing statement, Bolkiah said that in responding to "strategic challenges" Asean leaders agreed on the need to "identify new priorities and respond decisively to longer-term challenges facing Southeast Asia."

New priorities include an economic integration initiative amid the "worrying developments" of a decline in foreign investment in Asean countries.

"These concerns have been compounded by the global economic downturn and further uncertainty arising from terrorist attacks in the United States," Bolkiah said.

The challenges offered an opportunity to accelerate regional integration and push "the frontiers of our economic cooperation beyond existing commitments for free trade and investment areas," he said.

Bolkiah described as "bold yet feasible" the proposal for a giant free trade zone that would cover China, Japan and South Korea. An expert panel was to study the idea.

Bolkiah said there was agreement for a roadmap on Asean integration, with initiatives involving liberalization of trade and services, transport, tourism, communications and exploring the potential for barter trade.

Efforts would also be made to narrow the development gap to allow the lesser developed economies of Cambodia, Laos, Burma and Vietnam to gain tariff-free access to developed Asean markets before the earlier agreed date of 2010. ***With reports from Dona Z. Pazzibugan, AP, AFP and Reuters***

Nurse suffering from 'severe Stockholm Syndrome'–AFP

(From page A1)

"I don't have any plans of reverting to Christianity," Agence France Presse quoted Malonzo as saying tearfully.

It quoted a senior military official as saying that she was suffering from "severe Stockholm Syndrome," a psychological condition in which hostages become sympathetic toward their captors.

Malonzo refused to answer questions on her alleged marriage to Abu Sayyaf leader Khadaffy Janjalani, which a rescued hostage had earlier claimed.

She said she was separated from the 10 other hostages weeks ago.

Malonzo emerged a day after US military experts wrapped up a visit to the Southcom to help plot strategy against the Abu Sayyaf, which Washington has linked to suspected terrorist mastermind Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida network.

A Basilan-based military intelligence officer said Malonzo was released in Zamboanga City on Nov. 1, and was brought to the office of the Philippine National Police.

Reuters also quoted a senior intelligence officer as saying that the military learned of Malonzo's release when government agents saw her walking in a shopping mall in Zamboanga on Nov. 1.

They then asked her to go to a military base, where she has been ever since, the officer said.

But Insp. Joseph Arguelles, aide de camp of Western Mindanao police director Chief Supt. Simeon Dizon, said they did "not know about this."

"Only General Cimatu will give the statement," Arguelles said. But Cimatu denied that Malonzo was recovered in Zamboanga.

The Abu Sayyaf is still holding hostage American missionary couple Martin and Gracia Burnham and eight Filipinos.

They are Angie Montealegre, Maria Fe Rosadeno, nurses Sheila Tabunyag and Ediborah Yap, Golden Harvest Plantation farmers Joel Abella, Abdulpatta Mohamad and Marlon Dagayanon and carpenter Fernando Romeo.

The Burnhams, Montealegre and Rosadeno were part of a group seized by the Abu Sayyaf on May 27 from the Dos Palmas resort in Palawan. The resort closed shop late last month.

"We are doing our best and we will see results any time today or tomorrow. Just keep in touch," Cimatu told reporters.

AFP quoted Malonzo as saying that the Burnhams "are okay," except that she did not say when she last saw them.

Pierantoni

Contrary to what he reported Sunday, Cimatu said kidnapped Italian missionary Giuseppe Pierantoni was not with the Abu Sayyaf in Basilan.

Cimatu said naval units had merely reacted to earlier reports in a local daily that the priest had been sighted in Langil Island in Tuburan town.

He said that when government troops went to check on the "very raw reports," they clashed with suspected members of the Abu Sayyaf and killed six. But there was no sign of the priest in that clash. "So Father Pierantoni is negative there . . . It's not accurate (to say) that (he) is already with the Abu Sayyaf," Cimatu said in Filipino.

Pierantoni was snatched from his rectory in Dimataling, Zamboanga del Sur, on Oct. 17. The police and military earlier said the Pentagon, a group composed of rogue members of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front, was behind the abduction.

But Pentagon leader Faizal Marohombsar disclaimed responsibility, saying his group did not abduct priests.

He said the MILF did it, but Eid Kabalu, spokesperson of the secessionist group, also denied this.

Pagadian Bishop Zacarias Jimenez yesterday said Pierantoni was alive but very weak.

"Father Beppe's health has deteriorated, and there's an urgent need for him to see a doctor," Jimenez told the Cotabato City-based radio station dxMS from his base in Pagadian City.

Jimenez on Saturday received a letter from Commander Ramsey, leader of the gang that seized Pierantoni and whom the military earlier linked with the Pentagon gang.

According to Jimenez, Ramsey informed him that the medicines, shoes and clothes that the bishop sent had reached Pierantoni, but that more medicines were needed as the priest was suffering from amoebiasis.

"He is sick. He needs immediate medical attention. "Please let him go," the bishop said.

Fr. Eliseo Mercado, OMI, president of the Notre Dame University, also appealed to the MILF to help bring about Pierantoni's immediate release.

"His ailing mother is very worried," Mercado told the INQUIRER. "I am asking the MILF to intervene, and they gave me the assurance they will do their best."

Police in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao said Pierantoni was being held in Pualas town or Kapatagan town in Lanao del Sur.

"There are movements in some areas by about five to six people with someone whose head is covered with a piece of cloth," said Chief Supt. Akmad Omar, ARMM police chief.

"This is to confuse our police who are tracking them down . . . The victim is kept in one place because he is sick," Omar said.

Lanao-Maguindanao

Cimatu told reporters that Pierantoni might be held "somewhere in the boundary area of Kapatagan, Lanao del Sur, and Maguindanao."

Brig. Gen. Angel Atutubo, chief of Task Force Giuseppe, echoed this theory in a separate interview, saying they had earlier heard of that report.

Atutubo said his men were continuing to focus on areas in Zamboanga Sur, Lanao del Sur and Marawi City.

In another interview, Army chief Lt. Gen. Jaime de los Santos described the report that Pierantoni was in Basilan as a "preliminary report" that was still being verified. ***With reports from Edwin O. Fernandez, PDI Mindanao Bureau; Martin P. Marfil in Manila; AFP; Reuters***

Sleepless . . .

(From page A1)

He clarified to the INQUIRER that US authorities eventually cleared him and Come of the suspicion that they were carrying anthrax bacteria but they had to be deported nonetheless because they had no exit tickets. Their 10-year US tourist visas were canceled.

"We were shocked and jittery. We couldn't believe what was happening to us," Crisostomo said of their initial reaction to their detention and interrogation.

"We were so shocked we couldn't say a word," a still traumatized Crisostomo said in a telephone interview.

But at one point during their three-hour interrogation by Federal Bureau of Investigation agents, he refused to be cowed.

When an FBI agent told them that they seemed "to be guilty" because they were unusually calm, he retorted: "Why shouldn't we be calm? We're innocent."

After graduating from the PMA, Crisostomo went to the PAF Flying School. From 1985-1995 he worked as an Air Force pilot. He left the military service in 1995 with the rank of captain to join the private sector, flying chartered planes, for "better income."

Crisostomo recounted to the INQUIRER that he and Come went to the United States on Oct. 31 to undergo a three-day "simulation recurrency training" at the Flight Safety International, a flying school in Wichita, Kansas.

The training was supposed to start on Nov. 1 and was a requirement for the job they had applied for in Nigeria.

From the United States they were supposed to fly to Nigeria to meet their employer, a certain Capt. Nogie Meggison. Their employer bought their plane tickets for the United States through e-ticketing, which is done online.

It was also their employer who arranged for their refresher course in Kansas.

According to Philippine immigration officials, an unknown person from the Philippines tipped off the INS that Crisostomo and Come were carrying anthrax bacteria.

The two pilots took a Northwest airline flight from Manila to Seattle via Tokyo on Oct. 31. Upon arrival at the Seattle-Tacoma international airport at 6 a.m. on Oct. 31, the plane was isolated from the airport terminal and the passengers and their baggage searched.

Crisostomo said Federal Bureau of Investigation agents suddenly came up to their seats (he and Come were sitting near each other) and handcuffed them after verifying their identities.

They were led down the plane to the immigration office and were told that American authorities received a tip that they were carrying anthrax bacteria.

"We had this fear that someone might have planted anthrax in our baggage," Crisostomo said.

At the immigration office, their handcuffs were removed. But they were subjected to three hours of intense interrogation on a broad range of subjects—from their personal circumstances to their links to terrorist groups in the Philippines.

"We were asked questions like: Are you a terrorist? Do you have anthrax with you? Do you know anybody who is a terrorist? Have you gone to Mindanao?" Crisostomo recalled.

He said he was also asked why only his name and that of an Amor Lazo were listed at the Kansas flying school. He said he could only guess that their Nigerian employer had planned to substitute Lazo with Come at the last minute.

Crisostomo said the Americans also called up his parents who were living in the United States to confirm certain information.

After three hours, Crisostomo said, he and Come managed to heave a sigh of relief when an FBI official finally told them: "You can relax now. We already know that it (tip) is a hoax."

Shortly after, they were turned over to the INS for another round of questioning. Their fingerprints and pictures were taken.

After this, they were brought to the INS detention center outside the airport where they spent the night.

The next day they were picked up at the detention center and brought back to the airport, again in handcuffs, and were booked on the 12 p.m. Northwest NW 027 flight to Manila.

The pair arrived in Manila on Friday night.

Crisostomo said he and Come were acquaintances, having both worked as pilots in the late 1990s at Air Ads, a firm that charters planes.

The company yesterday confirmed that the two men were former employees.

The INQUIRER Southern Luzon Bureau yesterday called up two residents of Tiwi, Albay, who said Come was their relative. Come himself could not be reached at press time.

Apart from the malicious "tip" from Manila, Crisostomo could not say what could have aroused the suspicion of the US agents that they were bioterrorists. He denied initial reports that he and Come were wearing fatigue uniforms.

According to him, they were wearing light green flying jackets.

But Crisostomo said he could not blame the US agents for interrogating and detaining them.

"They're just doing their job. Apparently, it was part of their security measures in the wake of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks," he said.

But their ordeal in Seattle has left him traumatized.

He said he was not keen on pursuing his job application abroad anymore, adding that he would just look for a job here.

He said: "I think what happened was a bad omen." *With reports from Blanche Rivera; Roly Embile, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

Gringo: Mendoza extension rekindles coup talks

(From page A1)

are exchanged at the officers' usual Saturday gatherings for "troop information and education."

He said the officers had been "all kept in the dark" about the government's direction and national security policies.

"There is reason to validate what they are talking about," he said, adding that Mendoza's possible term extension was one reason for the coup rumors to spread.

Asked whether the President's announcement regarding Mendoza would affect morale in the PNP, her spokesperson Rigoberto Tiglao said: "We don't think so."

He said Malacañang was prepared to deal with the problem and would respond to it "when there are actual police personnel saying they are demoralized."

Reports have quoted anonymous PNP sources as claiming that an extension of Mendoza's term would stall the promotion of younger officers down the line.

But Tiglao said: "That's the usual problem with anonymous sources. Anyone can just say anything to impugn the integrity of an institution."

Standards

Honasan said the practice of term extension was disrupting the order of succession and violating such standards in the police and military system as "seniority, time-in-grade and performance."

"Now you have young officers who are thinking that you can have your term extended (if you are a favorite of Malacañang)," he said.

Speaking at a press conference, Biazon cited two provisions from Republic Act No. 6975 or the PNP Law.

Section 31 of the law provides that the appointment of senior officers down to the rank of superintendent must be subject to confirmation by the Commission on Appointments.

It says the PNP chief shall serve "a tour of duty not to exceed four years, provided further that in times of war or other national emergencies declared by Congress, the President may extend such tour of duty."

Section 39 sets the compulsory retirement age of officers and non-officers at 56.

Biazon also said the extension of Mendoza's term would further politicize the uniformed service and might even cause widespread demoralization, particularly within the officers' corps.

"The four-year tour of duty mentioned in Section 31 is not a mandatory term but a limitation," he said. "What should prevail is the provision on compulsory retirement of Section 39."

'Commander's time'

Mendoza is to push through with his planned meeting with junior and senior PNP officers this week or the next.

He said he would conduct the meeting on "commander's time," but not primarily to explain the President's announcement last month that Deputy Director General Hermogenes Ebdane Jr. was next in line to his post or the possible extension of his term

However, the issues could be taken up. "All these things are new, so we may still need to explain a few things," he said.

Earlier statements from the PNP leadership indicated that Mendoza would meet with PNP officials to "explain and clarify what the President said."

The President's announcement regarding Ebdane was said to have triggered demoralization in the PNP. But Interior Secretary Joey Lina and PNP officials including Mendoza had denied this.

Mendoza met with certain PNP officials the whole morning yesterday, but he said they did not talk about the possible extension of his term.

What was discussed was "their future, welfare benefits and their problems," he said.

Asked by the INQUIRER whether he would prefer to stay on as PNP chief or "return" to his family, Mendoza said the matter depended on the President.

"If you are a public servant, you serve on a day-to-day basis," he said. "I'm a presidential appointee. My appointment can be extended or terminated any time. It's all up to the President."

Roles

Mendoza said he would meet with junior and senior PNP officers as well as officials of the National Police Commission "because I want everybody to know their roles."

He said the PNP's performance would also be assessed because "the year is now ending."

But he clarified that he had regularly been in dialogue with these officials, particularly ,those from Mindanao.

"As Director Thompson Lantion said, commander's time. I should have more time with my people, so I can explain to them what we are doing for them," he said, adding: "I will also ask them some things, and they may want to take up with us personal and official issues."

Mendoza challenged those spreading "demoralization rumors" to come out in the open.

"Who are those talking, these unnamed sources?" he said. "They should come out. Like last night (Sunday, when there was a Luzon-wide power outage), there were many rumors. Even I received all sorts of text messages."

Mendoza chided the supposed demoralized officers, saying: "If you're a professional policeman or soldier, what is your business with who will be chosen chief of the PNP or the Armed Forces? We each have our jobs. You should focus on your own.

"Anyway, when you are already at the top, you serve at the pleasure of the President because she is the Commander in Chief." *With reports from Carlito Pablo; Luige A. del Puerto, contributor*

Malate workers think country, not just tips

(From page A1)

Program. During their graduation, Tourism Secretary Richard Gordon said that having completed the program, the graduates can give face to the "culture of tourism" of a renewed Malate.

Gordon said the program equipped the street workers with the knowledge and skills to provide "globally competitive" services for visitors in the country.

"This program recognizes the marginalized sector as significant tourism partners. Every *pedicab* driver or parking attendant is a major stakeholder in the economic recovery and development of our country," Gordon said.

It could be working.

Watching out for each other

"We no longer see one another as competitors for motorists' tips and available parking space on the side of the road or vacant lots," said 18-year-old Jun Garcia, a roadside parking attendant on Julio Nakpil Street, Malate.

"We watch one another to make sure every one of us is doing his job and not taking advantage of people who come to Malate for their 'gimmicks,' especially tourists," he added in halting Tagalog.

"If we allow 'bad eggs' among us, we'd also be the ones to suffer losses because the tourists would shun us and not entrust their cars to us. The same would happen if we ask them for too much," Garcia said.

Businessman Victor Layda, who supplies ice to some of the restaurants in the Malate area, agrees.

"Before, they (street workers) would frown when you ran out of loose change and give them just one peso or even less as a tip. Now, they'd just rib you and say they'd expect a little extra next time," Layda said.

Police officers of the Western Police District's Station Five also cite the role of street workers in keeping the peace in the resurgent community.

"They are a big help. You can count on them for information. Sometimes, they even volunteer what they know," said a foot patrol policeman on Remedios Circle.

Dignity of labor

"Most essential in the program is the upliftment of the street workers' self-worth. It aims to inculcate in them the dignity of labor. No matter how much or how little they earn, as long as it is through honest means, there should be pride and dignity," Gordon said.

Project M's workshops included fair pricing, quality standards, courtesy and tourist-friendly services.

"Tourism is the fast lane for anyone to prosper. Help us keep the country clean and peaceful. Be a watchdog as well. Report anything you see or hear that might pose as a challenge to our efforts to revive Malate," Gordon told the street workers of Project M.

The DOT plans to ride on the resurgence of cultural and culinary centers in Malate and Ermita to present Manila as the Paris of Southeast Asia—a major tourist destination for concerts and poetry as well as food and wine.

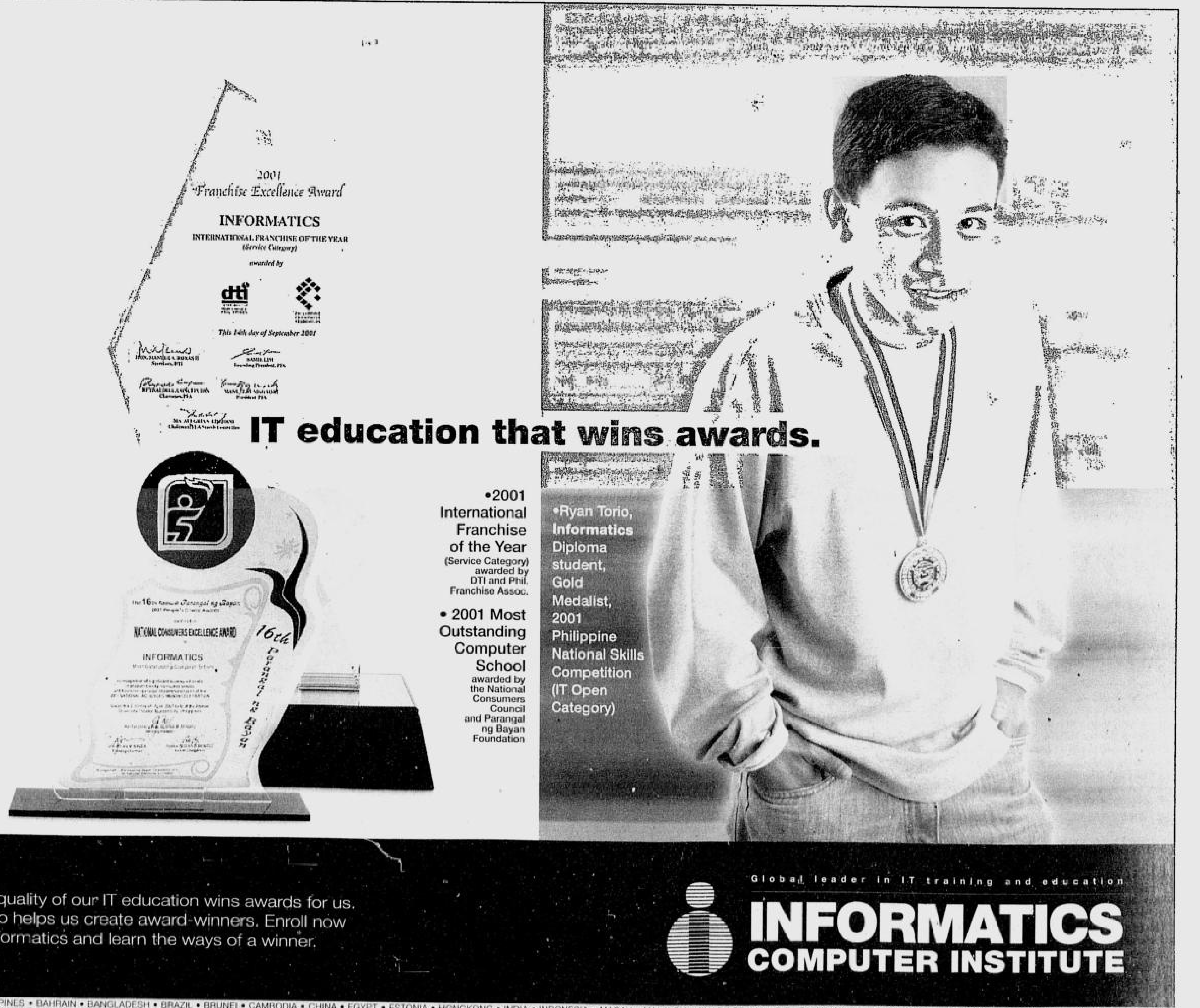
Big bite

The department aims to take a big bite off the huge tourism pie. Estimates of the DOT showed there were 700 million tourists who traveled around the world last year.

"Despite the recent events that caused tourism to take a plunge, there are other ways to make money out of tourism. Better services mean more opportunities for jobs and entrepreneurship," Gordon said.

The DOT and the city government have been pushing for the cleanup of Manila, particularly the Malate and Ermita area.

Apart from organizing street workers, both agencies are trying to respond to the squatter problem in coordination with the National Housing Authority.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2002 ASIAD

Andrada: Mamiit for P8.9M

By Marc Anthony Reyes

MAMIIT

IT'S Cecil Mamiit or none at all.

That's how ardent Philippine Tennis Association president Buddy Andrada is in trying to get the Fil-American tennis sensation to play for the country in the Pusan Asian Games next year.

Andrada told the INQUIRER that he will exhaust all means to get Mamiit's services, to the extent of seeking the joint support of the Philippine Sports Commission and private sponsors.

Mamiit's price tag is reportedly $175,000, roughly P8.9 million.

"If I fail to get him (Mamiit), I won't send anybody to Pusan," said Andrada. "What's the point of sending somebody that has no chance of winning? That's only a waste of money."

But who is Mamiit and what exactly can he contribute to Philippine tennis?

Mamiit, a 5-foot-8 Fil-Am born in Pasadena, California, is currently ranked 106th in the world and was seriously considered to be part of the United States Davis Cup team early this year. He has reached his highest ranking of No. 72 in 1999.

"Easily, with Mamiit around, we are assured of a gold medal in the Asian Games," Andrada said.

But Andrada believes the main problem is logistics.

"But I think I can raise money through corporate sponsors and some help from the PSC to get him," he added.

Already, Andrada's critics are raising an uproar over his plans.

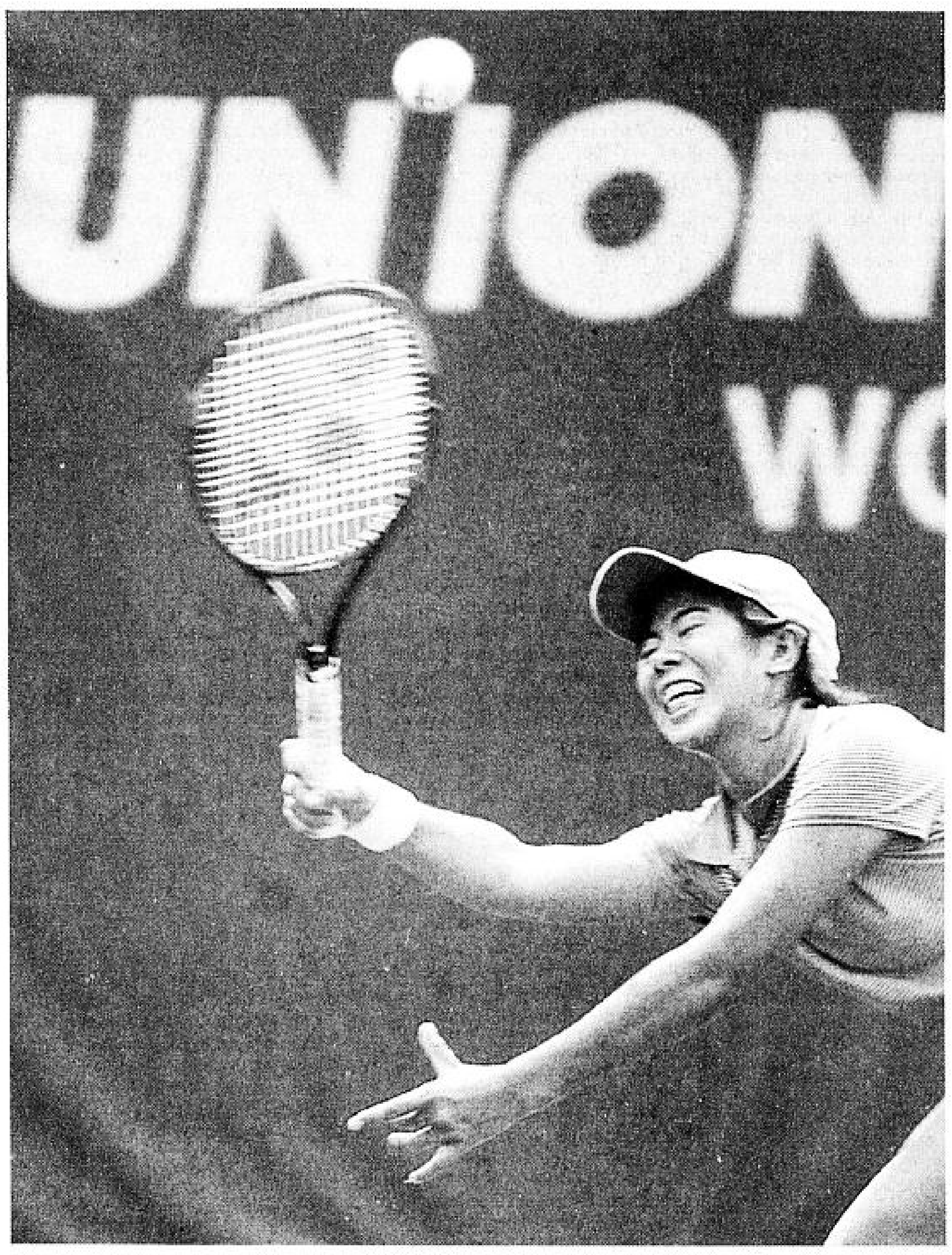
His foremost critic, Jovy Mamawal of Children Tennis Workshop, said getting Mamiit's services would involve a staggering amount of money, which he said "should instead be channeled to development programs."

Mamawal said Mamiit's camp initially offered to play for the country way back in 1995 in exchange of a round-trip ticket and $5,000. However, Andrada only got interested in him in 1999 when the Fil-Am reached the top 100 in the world.

"By that time, Mamiit already has a business manager, who asked for P2.7 million spread over the next three years," said Mamawal. "Mamiit will also act as a one-man marketing machine for Philippine tennis aside from carrying the country's colors."

Added Mamawal: "What's the point of spending P9 million for a single bronze medal? You can use it to send the present crop of players to international tournaments."

Andrada added that he is also interested in getting the services of Eric Taino, who won the Heineken Open in Singapore two years ago.



TRUE GRIT

Fil-Am Diane Matias stretches for a return against Weng Tzu-Ting of Chinese-Taipei in the semifinals recently of the Union Cement ITF women's circuit. Matias entered the finals but bowed to another Taiwanese bet, Chuang Chia Jung, in the finals of the first leg of the event at the Rizal Memorial tennis center.

ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

Taiwanese netter resumes winning run, tops Korean

FIRST leg champion Chuang Chia-Jung of Chinese Taipei defeated Shin Mi-Ran of Korea, 6-3, 6-0, yesterday to forge a second-round meeting with compatriot Chan Chin-Wei in the US$10,000 Union Cement-ITF Women's Circuit 2 at the Rizal Memorial Tennis Center.

Chan, ranked No. 907 in the world, pulled off a 6-1, 6-4 reversal over fifth seed Keiko Tameishi of Japan.

Third seed Shruti Dhawan of India also made an early exit, bowing to Prariyawan Ratanakrong of Thailand, 3-6, 4-6.

Today's matches pit Filipino wild card Czarina Mae Arevalo against Thassha Vitayaviroj, and qualifiers Charise Godoy against No. 4 Sonai Phadke and Kristel Samala against No. 7 Jennifer Schmidt of Austria.

Other seeds seeing action in this netfest supported by the ITF Grand Slam Development Fund, Viva Mineral Water, Wilson ball, Traders Hotel and PSC are No. 1 Kim Jin-Hee of Korea against qualifier Mirlea Gol of Spain and No. 8 Nana Wada of Japan against qualifier Lam Po-Kuen of Hong Kong.

Meanwhile, 12 players will leave on Wednesday for Malaysia to compete in two junior tournaments.

Jessica Agra, Julie Em Botor, Ivy de Castro, Melissa Rose Orteza, Bien and Bambi Zoleta, Joshua Tan Ho, Daniel Luis Macalino, Patrick Arevalo, Juan Felipe Mayor, Patrick Bryan Lontok and Raymond Villarete will join the Penang Open slated Nov. 9-12 and the Perlis Milo International Championships tournament on Nov. 13-16.

The players will be accompanied by national coaches Johnny Jose and Ronald Martin.

'Superwoman' shines

SOUTHEAST Asia's lone female rider, Wacky "The Superwoman" del Rosario, wound up second overall in the Novice class of the recently concluded Casino Filipino Moto Grand Prix at the Batangas Racing Circuit.

Though the protest against eventual champion Joey Reyes is still unresolved, many believed that the 22-year-old Caltex-Revtex rider should have been declared Rookie of the Year after wrapping up the season with the most number of first place finishes including the challenging Subic Bay Short Track.

"I can't wait to race in the Expert division next year and pit skills against the country's best riders like Jolet Jao on the same machines," said Del Rosario, who's now preparing to represent the country in the Thailand King's Cup Jet Ski Championship next month.

Del Rosario, also sponsored by Metzeler Tires, has been a consistent crowd favorite as she brings on exciting races.

Riding on a humble 600cc Yamaha R6, Del Rosario consistently managed to overtake one rider at a time in snatching the pole position despite going up against the more powerful, full-blown Ducati 996 engines.

Her lap times have improved to a consistent one-minute and 30 seconds and hopes to slash two of three seconds as she joins the Expert division next year.

SPORTS ON TV

Compiled by Lorenzo Manguiat

GOLF: PGA—The Tour Championship, Second Round at 2 p.m. (r) on Star Sports
LPGA Sports Today Open, Final Round at 4 p.m. on ESPN
TENNIS: Masters Series (Paris), Men's Final at 9 a.m. (r), Highlights at 9 p.m. on Star Sports
WTA Generali Ladies Open, Semifinal at 10 p.m., Finals at 11:30 p.m. on Star Sports

BLAST FROM THE PAST

TODAY in 1988, Tacy Macalos scored a 12-round decision over South Korean Choi Jhum Hwan to win the International Boxing Federation junior flyweight crown at the Araneta Coliseum.

LGBA stagfest tonight

WHO is the best gamefowl breeder in Luzon for 2001?

The three-leg series "Luzon Gamecock Breeders Association (LGBA) inaugural 6-Stag Derby" starts at 6 tonight at Mandaluyong Coliseum, featuring some 55 fights. The finals is on Thursday, Nov. 8.

Heavily favored tonight are Ucap back-to-back Stagfighter of the Year Sonny Lagon, Mario Villamor, lawyer Mario Antonio, Blandy Tolentino, Dr. Verden Afidal, Pete Rodriguez and Joey Lapid from Laguna, Mauro Prieto of Palawan, Rep. Peping Cojuangco, Esting Teopaco and Capt. Ben Rodriguez from Tarlac, Joel Fernando and Terence Madlambayan from Pampanga.

This prestigious event is sponsored by Washout Natural Insecticidal Shampoo, Wormal, Enertone (ready mix maintenance feeds) and the dynamic trio of Promotor '43, Respigen 15 and Voltplex. For inquiries, please contact 531-4003, 531-4005, 535-2341 and 534-4110.

The entries from Batangas are LGBA president Boy Diaz, Sandy Javier, Francis Lumunsad, Jun Sevilla, Francis Afable, Edwin Aranez, Bobbit Hollero, Emoy Gorgonia, Peter Uy and Tony Galang, while from Rizal are Biboy Enriquez, Rep. Lawrence Wacnang, Gov. Ito Ynares, Boy Jiao, Ricky Castillo, Gen. Marino Filart and lawyer Joey Mendoza.

From Cavite are Mike Romulo, Tonette Luzuriaga and Boyet Plaza while from Bulacan is Mario Siochi Jr.

Ulutan cockfest slated Nov. 11

A UNIQUE cockfighting will be witnessed by patrons with the holding of the 2-cock Ulutan at the Roligon Mega Cockpit in Parañaque City on Nov. 11.

Hosted by ASF & Co., the event has a guaranteed prize of P40,000 for an entry fee of P1,000, and a P2,200 minimum bet.

The new management of Roligon announced that the cockfest will be participated in by popular cockers from Metro Manila and the nearby provinces, like Ricky Castillo, lawyer Rudy Salud, William Go, Dennis Del Rosario, Lito Alcantara, Boy Lechon de Roca, Boy Gamilia, Vic Yu and many others.

Promoters Danny Ty said the fastest kill in the second fights will receive a bonus of P5,000.

He also said paying patrons will be treated to a raffle whose prizes are electric fan, rice cooker, 50 kilos of rice and oven toaster.

Meanwhile other derbies scheduled at Roligon are PCS 5-Cock Season Opening Derby by Ricky "Lakpue" Castillo, Jr. on Nov. 19, 21, 24 and 27 and LA 939 4-Cock Derby by Lito Alcantara on Nov. 29.

Jun B urges PBA changes

By Roy Luarca

THE ZONE defense, shorter quarters and faster time to cross the half court line.

PBA commissioner Jun Bernardino proposed these rules changes to the league's Board of Governors recently in a bid to make the local pros adapt better to international play, specifically when they represent the country in the 2002 Asian Games in Pusan, South Korea.

"I think the members (of the Board) are very open-minded and are one with the league's goals in doing what is necessary to ensure victory in South Korea," said Bernardino. "We want to give the Asian Games our best shot and we hope that these changes would indeed help us in winning the gold in Pusan."

The PBA has been tasked by the Basketball Association of the Philippines to carry the country's colors in the quadrennial meet for the fourth straight time and Bernardino feels that the chances are better now with the presence of talented Fil-Ams.

The zone defense is now being allowed by the NBA.

From the present 48 minutes, game time will be reduced to 40 as each quarter would be shortened to 10 minutes from 12. The time allowed an offensive team to bring the ball to the other side would also be reduced from 10 to eight seconds in conformity with the International Basketball Federation rules.

Other than these changes, Bernardino is also batting for the early formation of the team.

Bernardino is expected to name the coach before the end of the Governors Cup, and the coach in turn will choose his staff and the Philippine Team members.

"We see the wisdom in giving the coach the flexibility to conduct a program within the manageable parameters of the league," Bernardino added. "It will be his call. Once the PBA names the coach, we give him the free hand in running the team, and with that goes the prayers of the entire country."

The first time the PBA All Star, under coach Robert Jaworski, competed in the 1990 Asiad in Beijing it wound up second to powerhouse China.

Norman Black then took the nucleus of the San Miguel Beer team to the 1994 Asiad in Hiroshima, where it landed fourth, before coach Tim Cone steered the Centennial Team to third place in the 1998 edition in Bangkok.

Shark debuts today vs Blu

DEFENDING champion Shark Energy debuts today against opening-day winner Blu Detergent in the PBL Challenge Cup at the Makati Coliseum.

With former amateur hotshot Tony de la Cerna calling the shots, the Detergent Kings downed Kutitap Toothpaste, 72-62, on Saturday, joining bemedalled Welcoat Paints in the winners' circle.

Shark would be an entirely different foe. The Energy Drink Kings, who won their first crown in an epic showdown with the Paintmasters, have recruited 6-foot-4 banger Clarence Cole. Coach Leo Austria described Cole as a slam-dunking player, who likes to attack the basket.

The Shark-Blu game is set at 5:30 p.m. Kutitap aims to bounce back when it tackles Montaña Jewels, who is now being coached by veteran Turo Valenzona.

STANDINGS	W	L
Welcoat	1	0
Blu	1	0
Shark	0	0
Montaña	0	0
Kutitap	0	1
Ana	0	1

GAMES TODAY
(Makati Coliseum)
3:30 p.m.—Kutitap vs Montaña
5:30 p.m—Shark vs Blu Detergent

Dallas beats Memphis; Jordan scores 19 as Wizards lose

MEMPHIS, Tennessee—Juwan Howard scored 36 points to pick up the scoring slack for injured center Dirk Nowitzki and the Dallas Mavericks beat the Memphis Grizzlies 94-85.

In Auburn Hills, Michigan, Michael Jordan scored 19 points in just 22 minutes in his first back-to-back game of his second comeback as Detroit beat Washington, 100-78.

Other results: Toronto 113, Indiana 100; Houston 103, Phoenix 100; Sacramento 103, San Antonio 83; Golden State 96, Portland 86; L.A. Lakers 100, Utah 96. AP

It's Grosjean over K'nikov

PARIS —Sebastien Grosjean took revenge for a straight sets defeat in his native city by beating Yevgeny Kafelnikov Sunday in the final of the Paris Masters.

Grosjean, seeded sixth, won 7-6 (3), 6-1, 6-7 (5), 6-4 to claim the biggest victory of his career and a spot in the season-ending Masters Cup.

He threw his arms into the air after sealing the title when his Russian opponent sent a forehand smash into the net.

"It's a dream come true," Grosjean said with a shaky voice after his win. "I had a dream week. I'm so moved."

It was his first title in a Masters Series event - second only to Grand Slams in importance - and his second career title.

It also was his first win in four encounters over Kafelnikov, who beat him in the final at Marseille, Grosjean's native city, last February.

"Maybe it was the desire to win that made the difference," said the 23-year-old Frenchman.

Kafelnikov, a former French and Australian Open winner and the reigning Olympic singles champion, has never won a Masters Series despite appearing in five finals. He was runner-up in Paris in 1996, losing to Thomas Enqvist of Sweden.

"I must say I'm disappointed," said the fourth-seeded Russian. "Unfortunately, this is the second time I've played in the final here. Every time I came short, but I'm not ashamed."

Serena wants No. 1 ranking

MUNICH, Germany—Serena Williams was reluctant to fly to Europe following the Sept. 11 attacks.

"I don't like flying anyhow. I was a little scared," the American said. "I did a lot of praying."

The trip paid off Sunday when Williams, forgotten in the battle for No. 1 between countrywomen Lindsay Davenport and Jennifer Capriati, won the Sanex Championships on an anticlimactic note.

Now, Serena's gunning for No. 1 herself after taking home $ 750,000 and winning her biggest event since the 1999 U.S. Open.

RP's Dytoc leads World Cup bowling

PATTAYA, Thailand—Benny Dytoc, a 36-year-old bowling pro shop operator from the Philippines, waxed hot from start to finish Sunday night to pace the first eight games of the 37th AMF-Bowling World Cup international finals here.

Dytoc, a lefthander nicknamed "The Dragon," averaged 236.5 on the strength of an eight-game series of 1892 pins to take a 66-pin lead over Mexico's Daniel Falconi, who tallied 1826 for a 228.25 average.

Dytoc, a gold medalist in the recent Southeast Asian Games in Malaysia, said he thought the World Cup conditions were a little easier than those he encountered in the SEA Games.

"I thought the condition for lefthanders was a little tighter than what I found today. Both sides, right and left, are scoring well right now," Dytoc said.

As to feeling the pressure of a tournament leader, Dytoc said. "I don't think of it as pressure. It's more of a compliment from the Lord. I leave everything up to him. Some bowlers get very emotional when they play, but I try just to have a good time."

RECORD RUN

Tesfaye Jifar crosses the finish line to win yesterday's running of the 32nd New York City Marathon with a record time of 2 hours, 7 minutes and 43 seconds, beating some 25,000 runners and becoming the first Ethiopian to win the fabled race dedicated to the Sept. 11 victims of the Twin Tower attack. The old record was 2:08.01 set 12 years ago by Juma Ikangaa of Tanzania. AP

Letter from Mexico

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza

OUR featured reader says "the love of money is the root cause of the boxing maze now." Read on, fellas.

"Dear Al:

"Perhaps, you can give some space to this. I belatedly viewed the tape of Hermie Rivera and you in the pre-fight analysis of the Trinidad-Hopkins bout.

"Since I am of Rivera's age, I know some facts about boxing during the bygone era.

"Rivera was right to say that we had a boxer who was heavier than the usual slew we now have. His name was Ceferino Garcia. But he was not big as Hopkins and Trinidad. The truth was that he was 5-foot-6 and a junior welterweight champion of the world for the National Boxing Association (now the WBA). Rivera was also right to say that Ceferino Garcia was the one who introduced the bolo punch.

"Garcia was a cane cutter in Negros Occidental when he was discovered. The way he swung his uppercuts was reminiscent of the bolo he wielded.

"In the pre-war days, boxing used to have 'junior' before the 'legitimate' boxing weights. They were abolished during the war years. Later, it was reactivated to give way to some pugilists who could not beat the 'legitimate' crown wearer and to make more money at the tills. Example of this was our own Flash Elorde. He could not beat Sandy Saddler when Saddler ruled the featherweights (they said Elorde was cheated).

"Carlos Ortiz, who now works as a porter in New York, also knocked Elorde out at the Rizal Memorial Coliseum when Ortiz was the monarch of the world lightweights.

"Elorde has an admirer in the now-retired three-weight king, Roberto Duran. Elorde had beaten Duran's trainer, Ismael Laguna. Other Elorde victims include Suh Kang Il and Campari.

"What I noticed was Elorde fought better fights against fighters who were taller than him. The love of money is the root cause of the boxing maze now. In recreating the junior lightweight division, boxing moguls called on featherweights Jorgensen and Gomes to dispute the new weight category. Gomes was the winner. He did not have a star quality and the then amateur champion Egino Grafia of the Philippine Air Force could have easily beaten Gomes.

"Many other boxing associations like the WBC, WBA, WBO, IBF, etc. are now reaping the fruits of their vision." (Sgd.) HONORIO E. YBERA JR, Geranios No. 22, Fracc. Copacabana, 3900 Acapulco, Guerrero, Mexico.

Thank you, Mr. Ybera. More power to you.

TOUR CHAMPIONSHIP

Weir tops 4-man playoff with a birdie

HOUSTON — Canadian Mike Weir holed a 1.5-meter (5-foot) birdie putt to win the Tour Championship on the first hole of a four-man playoff to earn his first victory of the season.

It was the second straight year Weir won the final official event of the PGA Tour. A year ago, he surged past a world-class field at Valderrama to win the American Express Championship.

This one was even sweeter.

Weir, the first foreign player to win the Tour Championship, closed with a 67 and wound up in the playoff with hard-charging Ernie Els, the theatrical Sergio Garcia and PGA champion David Toms.

Only Weir and Toms hit the fairway with their tee shots and only Weir had a decent shot at birdie.

He ended it quickly.

Els, desperate to keep alive his streak of at least one victory on the PGA Tour every year since 1994, was seemingly stuck behind the trees down the 18th fairway in the playoff when he hit over the branches to about 12 meters (40 feet).

His birdie putt grazed the right edge of the cup.

"I gave myself a chance, at least," Els said. "I'm quite proud of myself for hanging in there."

Toms hit the fairway, just short of a sand-filled divot. He had 10.5 meters (35 feet) for birdie, but failed to cash in on what would have been his fourth victory of the year.

Garcia was in a familiar spot - behind a tree. He got questionable relief, but couldn't get out of the jungle, then hit his third shot over the green. But he wasn't done yet - his 24-meter (80-foot) chip broke away from the cup at the last second, leaving the 21-year-old Spaniard on his knees with his hands over his head in disbelief.

That set the stage for Weir, and the left-hander's putt was true.

Weir, who had to make it through Q-school only three years ago, won for the third time on the PGA Tour. It was his first victory in the United States, having won in Vancouver in '99 and last year in Spain.

He won $ 900,000 and a trip to the winners-only Mercedes Championship.

The Tour Championship has had 15 winners in its 15 years. None ended quite like this, with darkness descending on Champions Golf Club.

Toms, Garcia and Els each closed with a 68 to join Weir at 14-under 270.

Scott Verplank, the 54-hole leader, bogeyed the 17th to fall out of the lead and finished one stroke back, along with Kenny Perry.

Tiger Woods made an early appearance on the leaderboard, three strokes out of the lead when he made the turn. He finished with two bogeys for a 70 and finished six strokes behind in a tie for 12th. *AP*

I love this car.
TOYOTA

PHILIPPINE Airlines and Toyota Motor Philippines have joined hands to launch the 9th Mabuhay Club Invitational golf tournament slated on Nov. 9 at the Eagle Ridge Golf and Country Club. Shown during the signing of agreement are (seated, left to right) Joy Lynn Pasiliao; PAL assistant-VP for products; Raymond Rodriguez, TMP assistant-VP for vehicle sales; and Felix Cruz, PAL VP for marketing. Standing are Dax Avenido, TMP sales and advertising staff, and Nina Tchoi, PAL product loyalty marketing officer.

Woods makes it another sweep

WOODS

HOUSTON —Tiger Woods won the Vardon Trophy, the third consecutive season he has had the lowest scoring average on the PGA Tour.

Woods also won the PGA Tour money title for the third straight season, making him the first player since Tom Watson from 1977-79 to sweep golf's two biggest indicators for three straight years.

"It wasn't quite as good as last year, but it was still a pretty darn good year," Woods said Sunday after finishing the Tour Championship in a tie for 13th.

Woods was coming off a record-setting season, winning 12 times around the world - nine of those on the PGA Tour - including three straight majors.

He set the record for the adjusting scoring average at 68.17, and won the Vardon Trophy this year with an average adjusted score of 68.81. Davis Love III was second at 69.06.

Woods won the money title with nearly $ 5.7 million, down from $ 9.1 million last year. *AP*

U-Bix golf sets Nov. 8 deadline

BRAVO

THE U-BIX Riviera National Pro-Am's organizing committee has chosen Nov. 8 as the ultimate deadline of registration for the tournament set for Nov. 13-17 at Riviera's Langer in Silang, Cavite.

"The early deadline is to give us ample time to sort out our roster of entries and ensure a smooth holding of the event," said Comm. Danilo E. Pizarro, chair of the organizing committee.

Only about 12 slots from the 80-team cast are up for grabs, ensuring a full roster for the event principally backed by Bert Bravo's U-Bix Corporation and Teruo Nakazawa's Konica Corporation.

Registration fee is pegged at P4,000 in the four-day, no cut-off tournament supported by DHL Philippines of Rod Feliciano, Mizuno of Lovell Gopez and Herma Group of Hermie Disini.

A Toyota Altis from Toyota Motor Philippines will be staked as a hole-in-one prize in the unique two-some, one-ball format with would-be backers Pagcor-Casino Filipino and San Miguel Beer being joined by other celebrity backers in the VIP Pro-Am on Nov. 13.

"We reiterate our firm support to a tournament that has a long history of tradition and camaraderie," said Danny Isla, first vice president of Toyota Motor Philippines.

Among the other supporters of the event are Fortune Tobacco (care of Gen. Antonjo Abaya), Mayor Joey Marquez of Parañaque City, Roche International, Hermie Disini, Foremost, Coast Guard (care of Adm. Reuben Lista), Cinnabon Rolls, Vic Sotto's Travel Bug, Solahart, Caffe Appassionato on N. Garcia St. (Makati), Citgo, Pivo Praha beer, Citra Tollways, Golden Grove Estates, Bravo Golf, Bel-Air Bakery and Cena Restaurant on Libis, Q.C.

Architects' tilt gets support

PURSUING a commitment that has grown into a tradition, Pacific Paint & Oil Mfg. Inc., maker of quality famous Boysen Paints has pledged anew its support for the annual Architects' Golf Classic. Boysen Paints' support has largely determined the success of the event since its first staging in 1992.

Company's president Paul Ung gave the commitment to organizers of the event led by chair, architect Ramon S. Mendoza and president, architect Jimmy S. Biglang-Awa.

Now celebrating its 10th year of gathering architects and colleagues in the construction industry, the event is set to unfold at Sta. Elena Golf Club in Cabuyao on Monday, Nov. 19.

Other supporters are Delta Faucet Company, Puyat Vinyl Products, Inc., Puyat Steel Corp., Crown Asia Compounders, Futura Decor Products, House of Precast, Julant Pest Control, Mizono, Otis Elevator, Expert Interior Products, Republic-Asahi Glass Corp., Samitrade, Solahart, Digital Cinema In Style, Emerald Vinyl, Jackbilt Industries, Magnum Suria Signs, Maramax Lighthouse, New Golden City Builders, Philflex Wires & Cables, and Stainless Steel Industries.

Annika captures Mizuno Classic

HANNO, Japan — Sweden's Annika Sorenstam birdied the final two holes Sunday on her way to a 2-under-par 70 at the Mizuno Classic and her eighth victory of the year.

Sorenstam offset a pair of bogeys with two birdies before her convincing finish at the Musashigaoka course gave her a 54-hole total of 13-under 203 and a three-stroke advantage over England's Laura Davies.

"It was tough out there today," said Sorenstam. "The wind was swirling around all day, and I just tried to be patient and it paid off."

Sorenstam, who defeated South Korea's Se Ri Pak last week in the World Ladies Match Play Championship to wrap up player of the year honors, pocketed the $ 162,000 winner's check to secure the money title as well.

"It's been a great year for me. This was a very important tournament for me to reach many of my goals and to secure the money title feels great," added Sorenstam. *AP*

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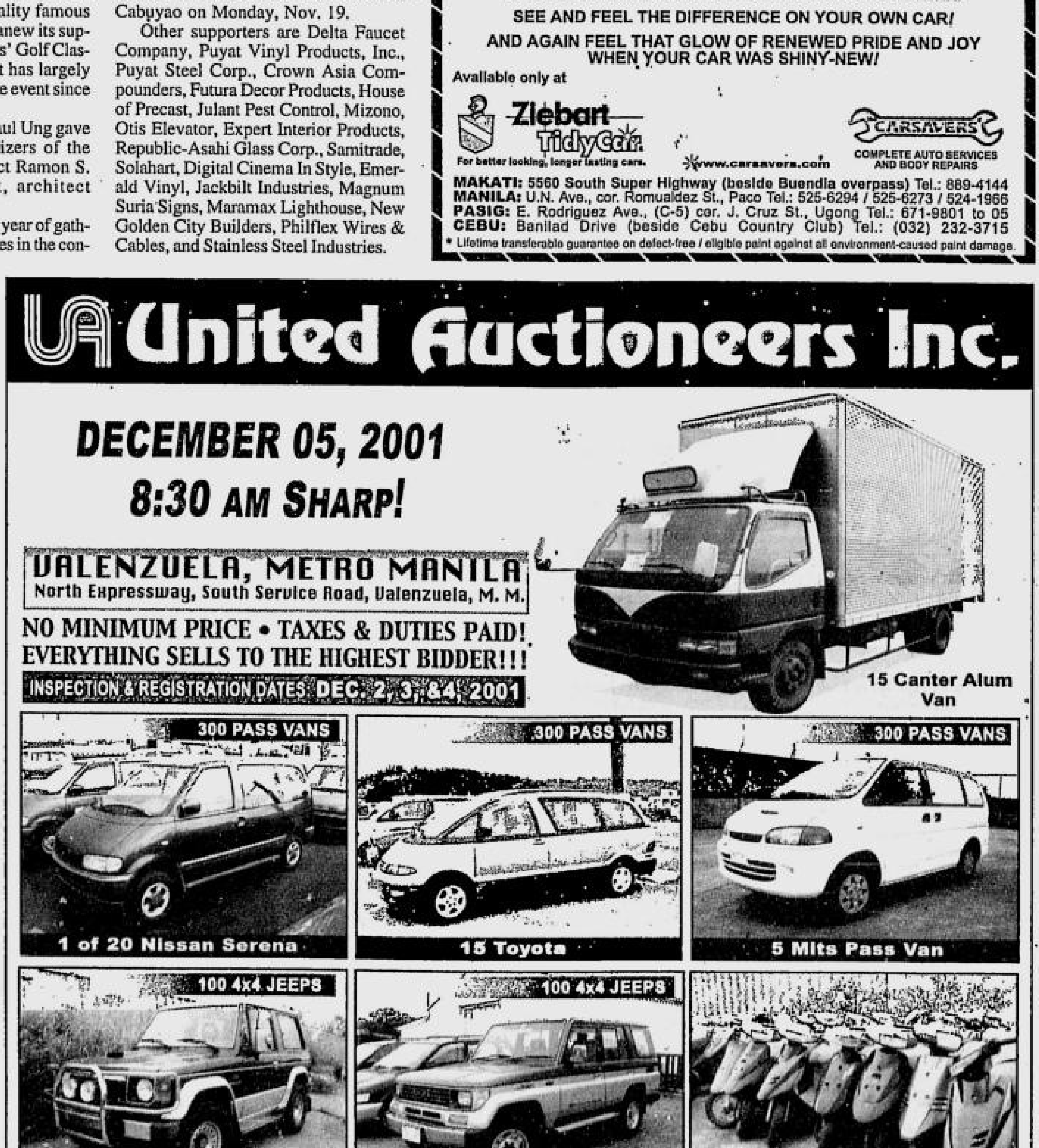
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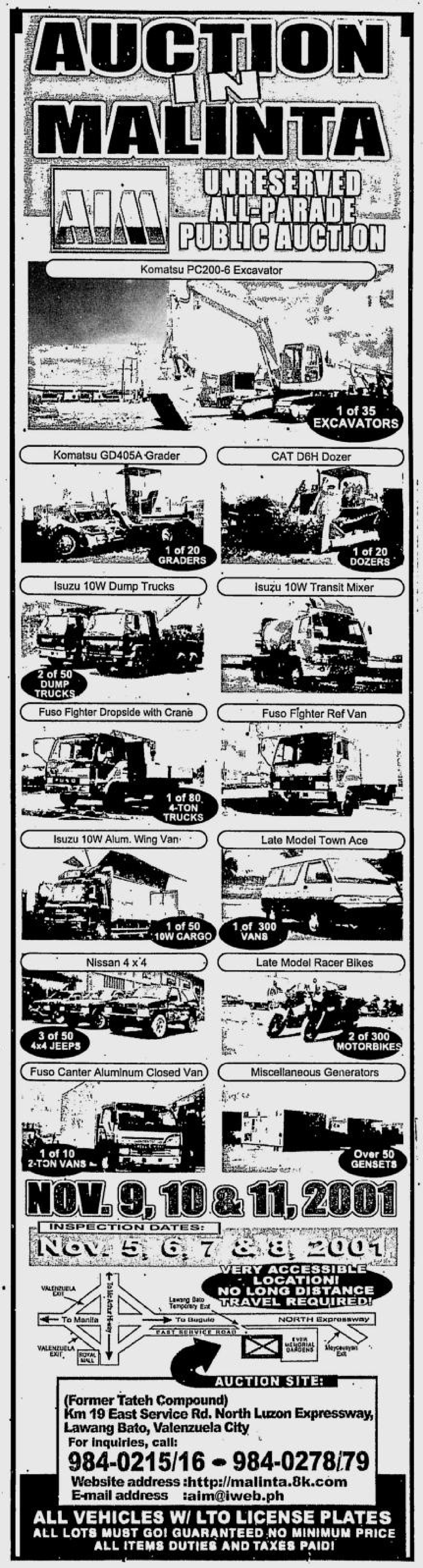
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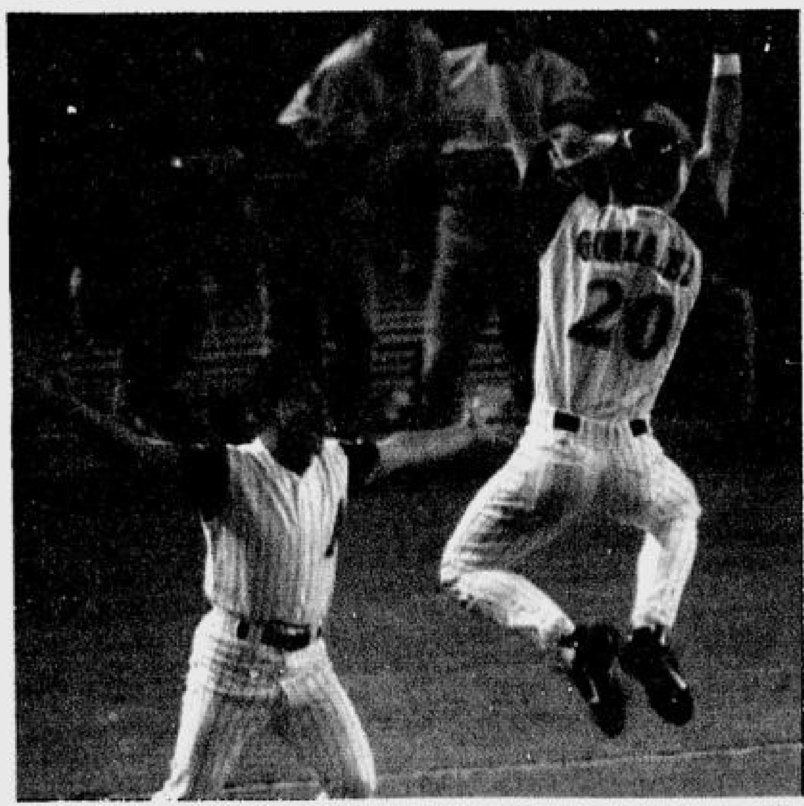

GONZALEZ (right) jumps for joy as he and Rodriguez celebrate the Diamondbacks' World Series victory. AP

Melbourne Cup blasts off today

MELBOURNE, Australia—Handlers for English import Persian Punch are hoping their nine-year-old gelding has improved with age in Australia's biggest horse race - Tuesday's US$2-million Melbourne Cup. Three years ago, the greybeard was third in the Melbourne Cup and this year his form in England has been strong, including a second-place finish to Royal Rebel in the Ascot Gold Cup in June. *AP*

Diamondbacks win World Series

PHOENIX—Arizona's Luis Gonzalez hit an RBI single to cap a two-run rally off Mariano Rivera in the bottom of the ninth inning Sunday as the Diamondbacks stunned New York Yankees 3-2 in Game 7.

The Yankees were only two outs from their fourth consecutive World Series title when it all fell apart.

Tony Womack tied it with an RBI double and, after Craig Counsell was hit by a pitch to load the bases, Gonzalez hit a soft single to center field.

Rivera, who had saved 23 consecutive postseason games, could do nothing but watch the ball fall in to end the Yankees' dynasty.

What began as a November duel between Curt Schilling and Roger Clemens climaxed with the Diamondbacks winning the title in just their fourth year of existence. It was the fastest rise in history, breaking the mark of five years set by the 1997 Florida Marlins.

The Diamondbacks did it by bouncing back from two of the toughest losses in Series history. They dropped Games 4 and 5 at Yankee Stadium, blowing two-run leads in the bottom of the ninth both times.

Arizona pitcher Randy Johnson, at 38, earned the victory in relief. He also won Game 6 on Saturday night, a 15-2 romp. Johnson was 3-0, making him the first pitcher to win three times in a Series since Detroit's Mickey Lolich in 1968.

CO-MVPs Johnson (left) and Schilling. AP

He and Schilling are linked in history not only as World Series winners - but as most valuable players.

Johnson, Schilling and several Arizona old-timers, including Gonzalez, Mark Grace, Matt Williams and Mike Morgan, won their first championship ring.

They have a great ballclub over there, but this team was relentless, Gonzalez said. This is probably going to go down as one of the best World Series ever.

Brenly became the first manager to win the championship in his first year since Ralph Houk did it with the Yankees in 1961.

The Yankees, the team that would not give up, nearly won it for the city that would not give in. A highly motivated bunch, they showed extra resolve after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks in New York.

The Yankees were a home run swing away from elimination in the first round against Oakland and lost the first two games at Bank One Ballpark before making their comeback.

Lost in the desert

But back in the desert, they looked lost.

" We're obviously disappointed in the result, but not the effort," Yankees manager Joe Torre said.

Alfonso Soriano's solo homer off Schilling put New York ahead 2-1 in the eighth. Rivera, the most dominant reliever in postseason history, set down the Diamondbacks in the bottom half.

Then in the ninth, Arizona rallied.

Grace led off with a single and Rivera threw away Damian Miller's bunt for an error, putting runners at first and second.

Jay Bell bunted into a force play at third, but Womack lined a tying double to the right-field corner. Counsell, who scored the winning run in Game 7 with Florida in 1997, was hit by a pitch.

With the infield in, Gonzalez hit it hard enough for a game-winning single that set off fireworks, pounding music and deafening cheers.

The Yankees fell to 5-6 overall in deciding Game 7s of the Series.

Schilling was nearly untouchable at the start. The first pitcher to start three games in a Series since Minnesota's Jack Morris in 1991, he once again showed no ill effects from working on three days' rest.

Schilling allowed only one hitter to reach 1st base through six innings, and even that batter did not last long on the bases. Paul O'Neill, playing his final game before retiring, was thrown out trying to stretch a double into a triple in the first.

But given a 1-0 lead in the sixth inning on Danny Bautista's RBI double, Schilling gave it back.

A strange wind started swirling through the ballpark to start the top of the seventh. Maybe it was a precursor of what was to come because moments later, Arizona had blown its edge.

16 hitters

Schilling retired 16 consecutive hitters before slumping Derek Jeter led off with a single and O'Neill followed with another single in front of center fielder Steve Finley.

Up came Bernie Williams, and Torre had no intention to bunt with his No. 3 hitter. Besides, Williams has not had a sacrifice since 1996.

With Miguel Batista and Brian Anderson warming in the Arizona bullpen, Williams grounded into a force play that left runners at the corners.

Tino Martinez tied it with an RBI single, and Schilling escaped further trouble by getting two fly balls. Finley ran a long way into the right-center field gap to track down Shane Spencer's drive that ended the inning.

Clemens, pitching the biggest game of his great career, worked out of several early jams. The Diamondbacks caught up to him in the sixth after Finley led off with a single.

Bautista was next and many people thought the man with five RBIs in Saturday's 15-2 romp would bunt. Arizona manager Bob Brenly once again crossed up his critics and let Bautista swing away, and it worked.

Bautista hit a drive into the left-center gap, and Clemens simply stood on the mound with his right hand on hip, watching the play unfold.

Finley scored easily, and Bautista was nailed at third on a fast, acrobatic relay by - who else? - Jeter. *AP*

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Game 7: Every fan's dream

PHOENIX —Life doesn't get much better than this: World Series, Game 7, Clemens vs. Schilling.

By the third inning Saturday night, fans already were thinking ahead. This is what Little Leaguers dream about, one game for the championship of baseball. Every little play magnified into history.

Think about the great moments of Game 7s past: Bill Mazeroski's homer in 1960, Jack Morris' 10-inning shutout in 1991, Joe Morgan's bloop ninth-inning single against Jim Burton in 1975.

"I think the fans will get a treat," Yankees manager Joe Torre said. "Hopefully, it lives up to what it is supposed to live up to."

Arizona's Curt Schilling, set to start on three days' rest for the second time in the Series, has a good sense of baseball history. He knows what it means.

"This might be like being in the essay finals against Hemingway, or a paint-off against Picasso," he said. "It's Roger Clemens. It's Roger Clemens and the Yankees, Game 7. Everybody that's ever played this sport at any level has had a Wiffle ball in their hand at some point and said, it's the seventh game of the World Series and you're either pitching or hitting. How cool is that?" *AP*

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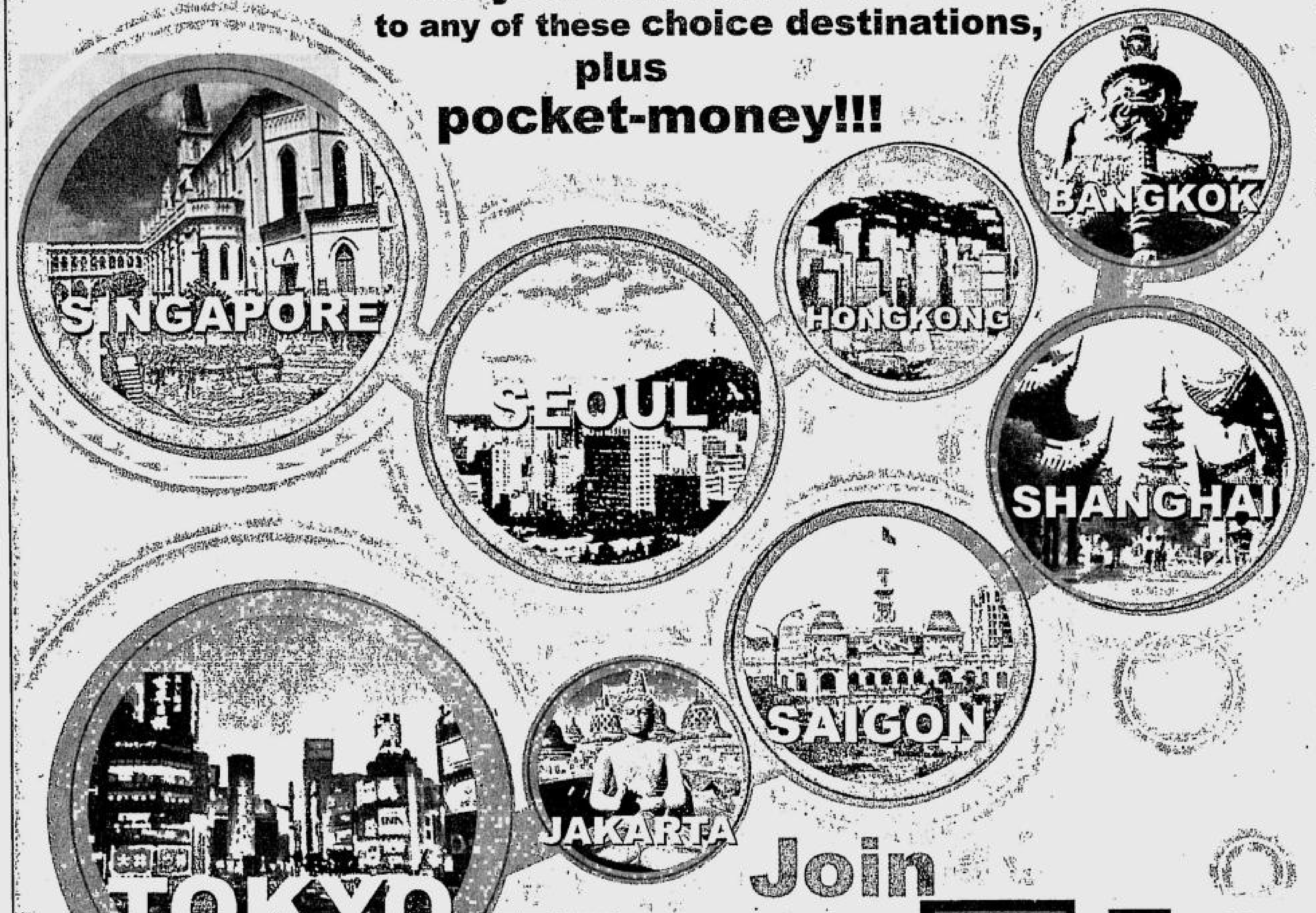

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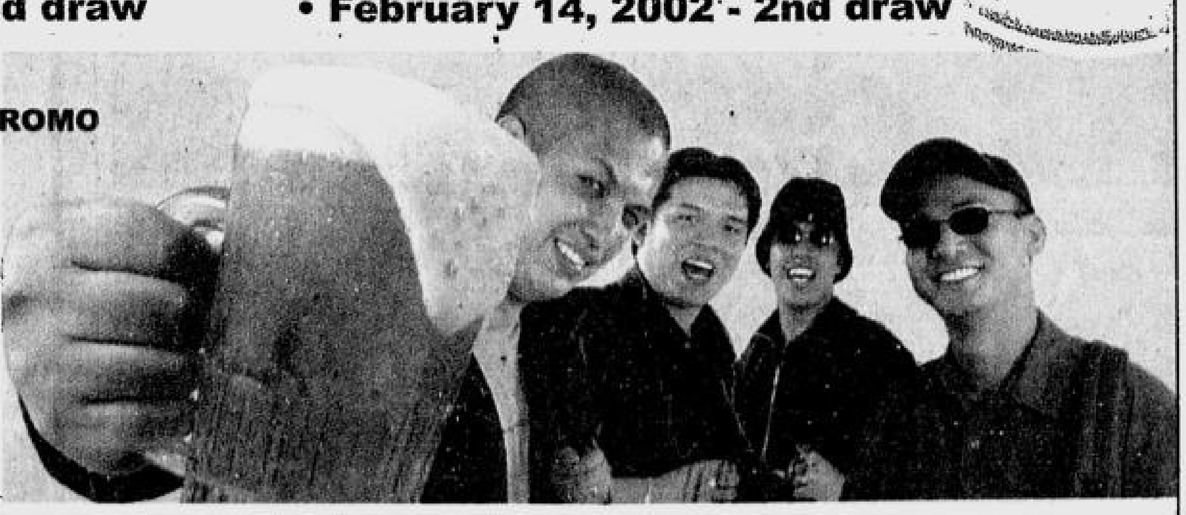

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METRO

LOUIE C. CAMINO, Editor

P15M Parañaque rob an inside job, cops say A20

Blast kills bomb maker

Police probing victim's role in December bombings

BY CHRISTIAN V. ESGUERRA

A HOMEMADE bomb yesterday exploded in a house in Muntinlupa City, killing the man who was said to be assembling the explosive and triggering police investigation of his possible involvement in the bombings in Metro Manila last Dec. 30.

Although Henry Hidalgo, 38, the man who died in the blast, had no criminal record, authorities are investigating any link he might have with terrorist groups which could be plotting to attack the metropolis, said Interior and Local Government Secretary Joey Lina.

Gary de Leon, who shared the house with Hidalgo and four relatives, suffered minor injuries in the blast.

The explosion ripped through the walls and roof of their rented house in Jade Heights, Victoria Homes, Barangay Tunasan, about 12:45 a.m., police said.

Authorities refused to confirm reports that a notebook containing a list of bombing targets like the Light Rail Transit stations and the Metropolis Mall was found in the house.

But police said that between 10 and 20 kilos of powder used in making bombs, an improvised timing device and empty .9 mm pistol shells were found in Hidalgo's house.

"We are looking into the possibility that Hidalgo was involved in the Dec. 30 bombings," Lina told the INQUIRER.

He said De Leon underwent tactical interrogation in Camp Crame so investigators could determine Hidalgo's involvement with terrorist groups.

But Philippine National Police chief Gen. Leandro Mendoza said that so far, investigation has not found anything that could link Hidalgo to terrorist groups.

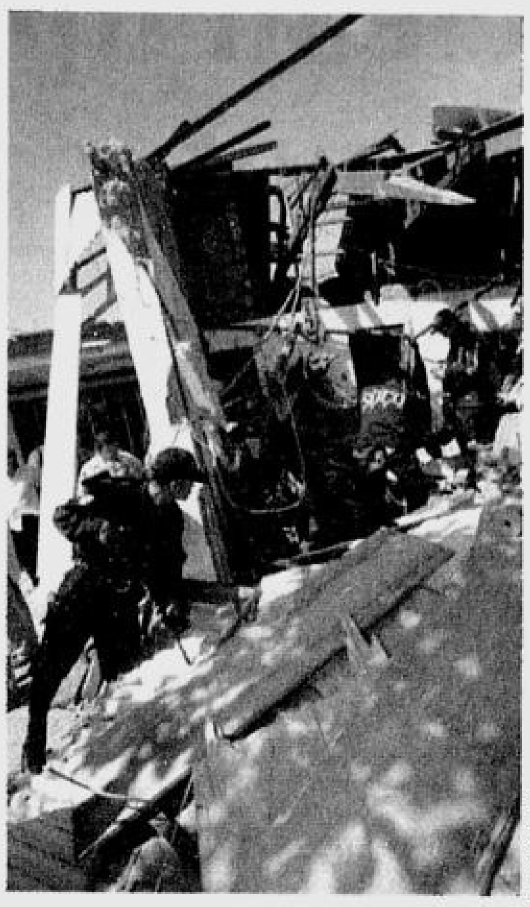
"I immediately sent a bomb squad," Mendoza said. "It appears from initial investigation that the lone casualty may have triggered the blast himself accidentally."

Described by neighbors as a loner who kept to himself in his room, Hidalgo is a native of Naguillan, La Union.

"This Hidalgo did not allow anybody, including his relatives to enter his room," Mendoza said.

Some diskettes, documents, and black powder were also found inside Hidalgo's room, Mendoza said.

Black powder is used in making firecrackers and sparklers. Black powder is also used to make bombs but in huge amounts, police said. *With Luige A. del Puerto*

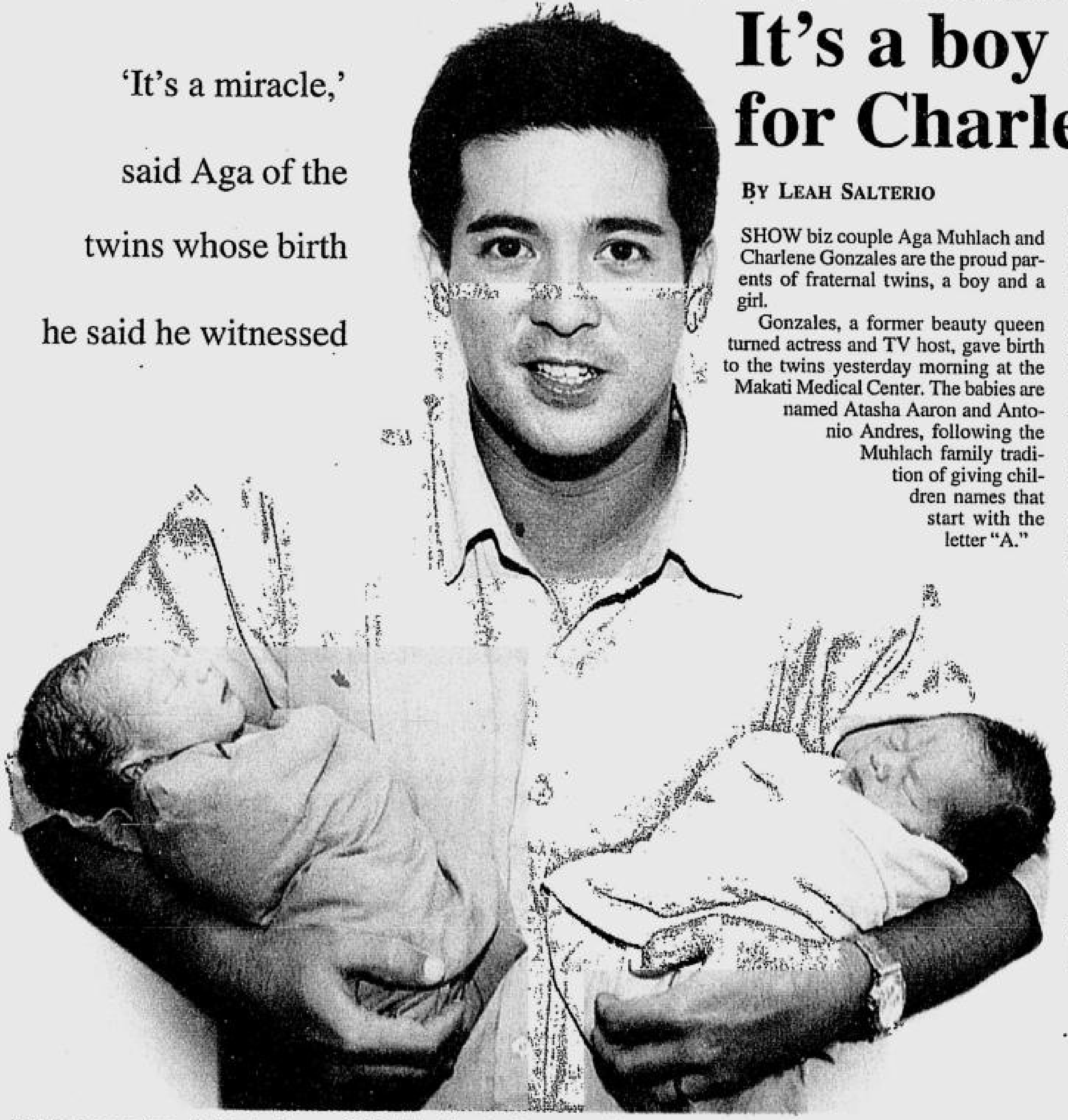


ERIK ARAZAS

SHATTERED by the explosion is this house in Tunasan, Muntinlupa, in one bedroom of which victim Hidalgo created explosives.

It's a boy and a girl for Charlene and Aga

'It's a miracle,' said Aga of the twins whose birth he said he witnessed



PROUD papa Aga Muhlach shows off his kids Atasha Aaron and Antonio Andres.

BY LEAH SALTERIO

SHOW biz couple Aga Muhlach and Charlene Gonzales are the proud parents of fraternal twins, a boy and a girl.

Gonzales, a former beauty queen turned actress and TV host, gave birth to the twins yesterday morning at the Makati Medical Center. The babies are named Atasha Aaron and Antonio Andres, following the Muhlach family tradition of giving children names that start with the letter "A."

"It's a miracle," said the new father of the twins whose birth he said he witnessed. "I felt Charlene's pain when she was giving birth. When you see how a woman gives birth, it should make you love your wife and your mother more."

Muhlach was with his wife from the time she checked into the hospital Sunday night until her scheduled Caesarian section delivery at 5 a.m. yesterday.

The girl, Atasha Aaron, was delivered at 5:06 a.m. She weighs 5.5 pounds and is 47 cm long.

The boy, Antonio Andres, came out after two minutes. He weighs 5.13 pounds and is 47.5 cm long.

"I took care of Charlene from the first day that we found out she was pregnant," Muhlach said. "Nothing compares to the feeling of seeing our babies now."

The babies are both very healthy, according to Muhlach's manager, Ethel Ramos.

Ramos said Gonzales was conscious throughout the entire delivery. "She didn't require general anesthesia because she wanted to see the babies right away," Ramos said. "She also breastfed the babies before she slept."

Gonzales' mother Elvie was also in the operating room with Aga.

Aga and Charlene were married in a grand ceremony on May 28 at the St. Joseph the Worker Church in Baguio City. Two days before the wedding, they announced Gonzales was three months

IT'S A BOY/ A20

3 fires break out during blackout

BY PHILIP C. TUBEZA

WHILE Metro Manila and the rest of Luzon was engulfed in darkness Sunday night, three fires broke out in different parts of Manila and destroyed about P4 million worth of property.

No one was killed, but a fireman and a Tondo resident were injured in the blazes that hit Tondo, Sampaloc, and Intramuros.

Rolando Ensipido, 24, of Tondo, suffered first-degree burns in the right side of his body while SFO2 Romeo Laureño was wounded in the upper left arm, police said.

Arson investigator FO2 Oscar Ropero said the first fire began at 7:32 p.m. in a two-story house on Dagupan Street in Tondo. The fire spread to 10 other houses.

The blaze reportedly started from an unattended candle on the second floor, Ropero said.

Ensipido was injured during the blaze while Laureno was hurt while trying to put out the fire.

The fire fighters finally put out the fire at 8:52 p.m., Ropero added.

Initial police investigation showed that about P1 million worth of property was damaged in the Tondo blaze.

But before the fire fighters could return to their stations, the second fire began around 8:45 p.m., in another two-story house, this time owned by a Rosendo Sumega at 1954 Mindanao corner Mindoro in Sampaloc.

The fire also spread to 10 other houses, said SPO4 Arsenio Carpio of the Western Police District Station IV.

Carpio said the fire was declared under control at 9:56 p.m. and it was put out at 10:40 p.m.

Firemen estimated damage to property at P2.5 million. No one was reported killed or injured in the Sampaloc fire.

The third fire broke out in still another two-story house at 463 Legaspi St. in Intramuros, Manila, at 1:21 a.m. It spread to 40 shanties and reached the fifth alarm. Firemen finally put it out at 2:17 a.m. but not after it destroyed P800,000 worth of property.

No winner, no check issued, says PCSO

BY AGNES E. DONATO

A WOMAN who claimed to have won the March 29 lotto draw of the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO) and who accused PCSO officials and employees of duping her of her P1.6 million winning failed to show up yesterday at the PCSO office to prove her allegations.

PCSO officials had been waiting for Catherine Tabien since yesterday morning but she had not yet arrived as of press time, said Conrado Zabella, assistant general manager of the online lottery.

PCSO general manager Virgilio Angelo had invited Tabien to the office.

"We are ready to face Ms Tabien and show her documents that will prove that what she's accusing us of could not have happened," Zabella said. "The PCSO is very transparent. Otherwise, we would not have lasted in this business for 67 years."

He also said the PCSO was considering filing fraud charges against Tabien if her allegations would turn out to be baseless.

Zabella said that while the March 29 six-digit game yielded a total of 2,364 consolation prize winners, no ticket was purchased or sold for the winning combination, 6-8-6-6-3-9.

"There being no first prize winners, the prize pool allocated for that draw was carried forward or snowballed to the next draw pool," Zabella said.

NO WINNER/ A20

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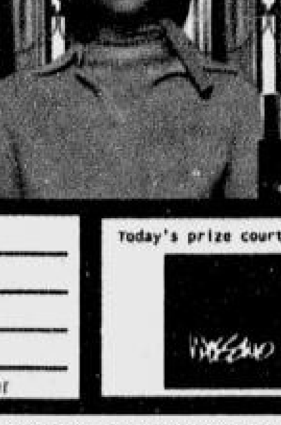

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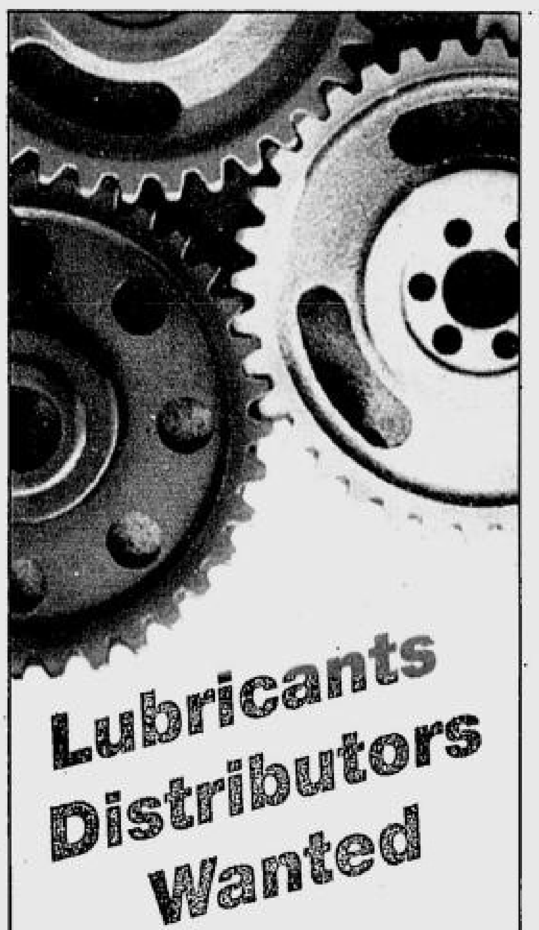

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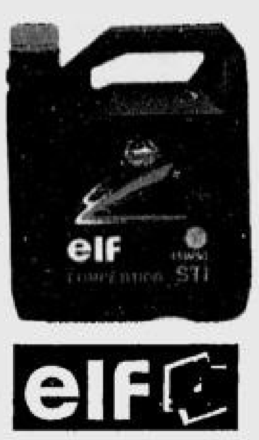


elf

Oil firms should clean up Pandacan depot, dads say

By Jerome Aning

WITH their expected final approval of the phaseout of the Pandacan oil depot, Manila councilors want the petroleum companies to help the city government clean up the site of toxic wastes that could be left behind.

The city council's committee on housing, urban development and resettlement, in a 16-page report, said cleaning up the toxic wastes and contaminated soil and water at the Pandacan site is a major health and public issue that the oil firms should be aware of.

The council is set to approve this week an ordinance converting the site of the oil depot from an industrial to a commercial area, thus requiring the depot to cease operating.

But the focus of the ordinance is the lawmakers' contention that the depot is a public safety hazard. Public hearings on the proposed ordinance revealed that the facility could not be adequately secured from a large fire or a terrorist attack.

The committee, headed by Councilor Jocelyn Dawis-Asuncion, pointed out that the depot facilities were established in the early 1900s, long before the enactment of laws requiring companies to submit an environmental impact study (EIS) and apply for an environmental clearance certificate (ECC).

An EIS, the committee said, would have determined the aggregate effect of the construction of the depots on the ecology and on the Pandacan and Manila surroundings.

Laws on EISs and ECCs were enacted only in the 1980s.

The councilors also learned that the Department of the Environment and Natural Resources' Environmental Management Bureau and the Laguna Lake Development Authority have yet to finish their studies on the extent and effect of gaseous and liquid emissions from the depot.

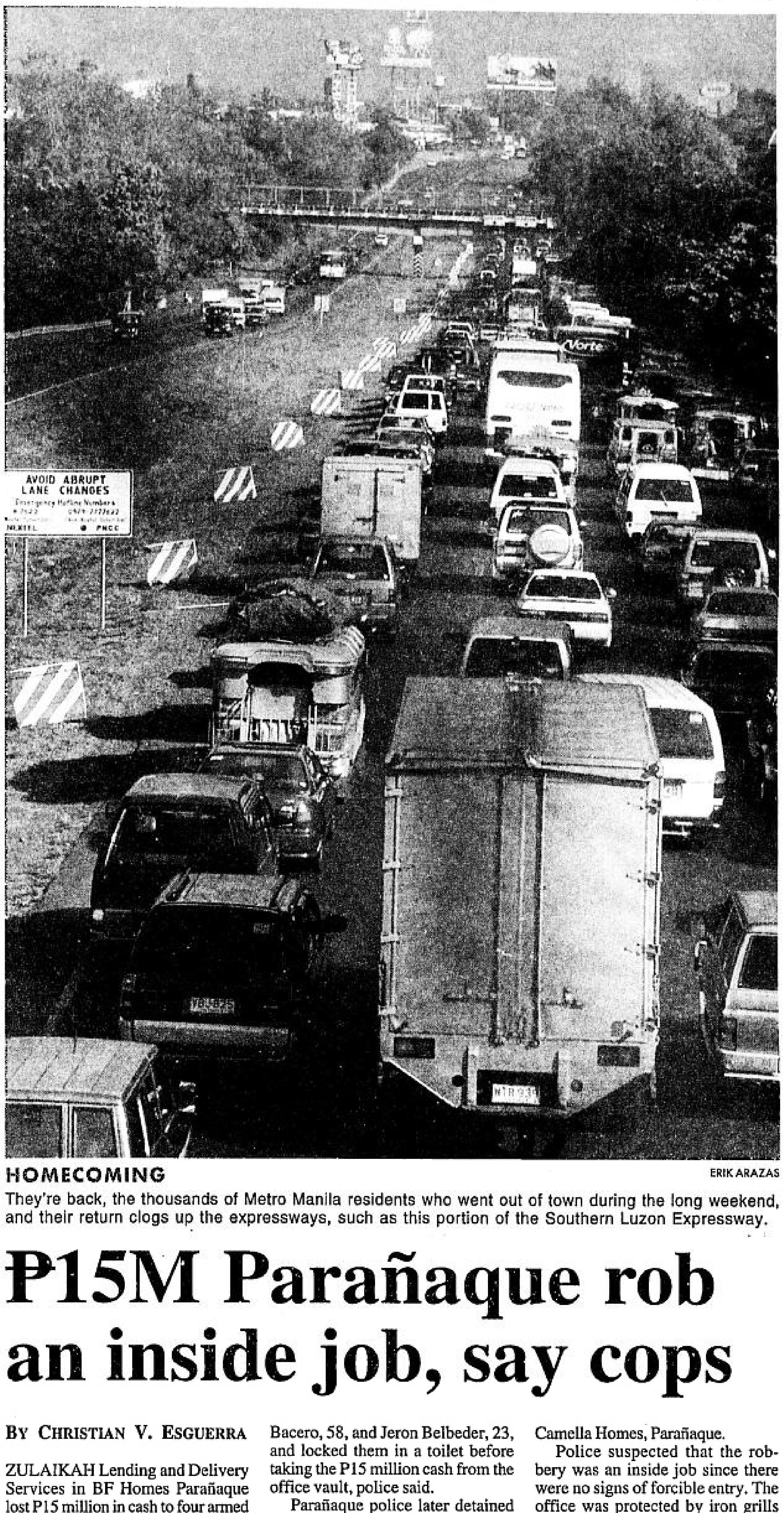
But Asuncion recalled that during the hearing of the House of Representatives committee on ecology on Oct. 2, the Department of Health itself supported the relocation and admitted that the depot poses "great risk to the health and public safety of the people of Pandacan."

The councilors said that the hazards of fuel depots on the environment were clearly illustrated in the desk study, site investigation and risk assessment conducted by Allot & Lomax, a London-based EIS consultancy firm, on a defunct depot in Cambridge, England.

The Cambridge depot has been derelict since 1997 and all buildings in the area were demolished in 1999. The study showed that the soils in the area were heavily contaminated with diesel and petroleum-range hydrocarbons.

Ground water was found to be similarly contaminated. Floating oil was also observed in the ground water near the demolished oil tanks.

"If a 40-year-old oil depot facility yielded so much toxic waste, how much more toxic waste can a 91-year-old depot in Pandacan create?" Asuncion told her colleagues when the ordinance was being discussed for second reading.



HOMECOMING ERIK ARAZAS

They're back, the thousands of Metro Manila residents who went out of town during the long weekend, and their return clogs up the expressways, such as this portion of the Southern Luzon Expressway.

No winner, no check . . .

(From page A19)

He said the first prize was won only on April 28, or 15 draws since the March 29 game.

A 51-year-old male public accountant from Pampanga won the first prize in the April 28 lottery. He bought his winning ticket at a lotto outlet in Legaspi Village, Makati City, the PCSO said.

The accountant won the accumulated prize poll of P4,812,519.00.

Zabella stressed that the PCSO online system was "fool-proof and tamper-free," as all information that pertains to the purchase of tickets are recorded and secured into the central computer's database.

The information includes the date and time the ticket is bought or sold, outlet that sold the ticket, combinations bought, draw date, game type, type of bet and the ticket price.

No ticket sales for any combination are accepted by the system after the close of the selling period, which takes place 30 minutes before the televised draw, Zabella said.

After the game, the draw results are entered into the main computer system to determine if any tickets were bought/sold for the winning combinations.

Zabella said the PCSO already had numerous experiences with fraudulent claims.

"Some people would come here telling us they won the jackpot," he said. "But when we verify, we would find out that they only bought their tickets the day after the draw."

He also scored Tabien for not having brought along any of her relatives or friends when she purportedly went to the PCSO in Quezon City to claim her prize on March 30.

"Normally, first prize claimants are so apprehensive about the amount of money they would be getting that they bring along their entire barangay," Zabella said.

He said the PCSO gives only checks, which can be withdrawn at once at the Philippine National Bank or Landbank branches at the PCSO compound.

This was contrary to Tabien's claim that she was given a postdated check that Michelle Bautista, an employee of the PNB-PCSO branch, had taken and had replaced with a PNB passbook and a checkbook on April 25.

Tabien also claimed that Bautista told her not to withdraw from the account until 60 days had lapsed. She said she later found out that her account was closed without her knowledge on May 24.

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Tuesday, November 6, 2001
31st Week in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Rom 12:5-16
Gospel: Lk 14:15-24

Upon hearing these words, one of those at the table said to Jesus, "Happy are those who eat at the banquet in the kingdom of God!"

Jesus replied, "A man once gave a feast and invited many guests. When it was time for the feast he sent his servant to tell those he had invited to come, for everything was ready. But all alike began to make excuses. The first said: 'Please excuse me. I must go and see the piece of land I have just bought.' Another said: 'I am sorry, but I am on my way to try out the five yoke of oxen I have just bought.' Still another said, 'How can I come when I have just married?'

The servant returned alone and reported this to his master. Upon hearing the account, the master of the house flew into a rage and ordered his servant: 'Go out quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame.'

The servant reported after a while: 'Sir, your orders have been carried out, but there is still room.' The master said: 'Go out to the highways and country lanes and force people to come in, to make sure my house is full. I tell you, none of those invited will have a morsel of my feast."

Commentary

In the ancient Jewish culture, a dinner was an affair never to be missed. The host sent invitations early and guests were reminded of the date. In our story, the invited guests all excused themselves at the time of the dinner. It was a date, but it was not perhaps important to them. The dinner is ready. The host turns to the outcast of the society. The disabled are classed with the poor. With them are those discriminated against by reason of race or religion. The great response to Jesus comes mostly from these marginalized people. God invites us all. We should be interested in his affairs. We have no more excuse to be too busy because we have all the high-tech gadgets to finish work right away.

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SUPREME COURT DOCTRINES

REMEDIAL LAW (CIVIL PROCEDURE)—General rule of factual findings of trial court, when adopted and confirmed by the Court of Appeals, are final and conclusive; exceptions—Factual findings of the trial court, when adopted and confirmed by the Court of Appeals, are final and conclusive and may not be reviewed on appeal except: (1) when the inference made is manifestly mistaken, absurd or impossible; (2) when there is a grave abuse of discretion; (3) when the finding is grounded entirely on speculations, surmises or conjectures; (4) when the judgment of the Court of Appeals is based on misapprehension of facts; (5) when the findings of fact are conflicting; (6) when the Court of Appeals, in making its findings, went beyond the issues of the case and the same is contrary to the admissions of both appellant and appellee; (7) when the findings of the Court of Appeals are contrary to those of the trial court; (8) when the findings of fact are conclusions without citation of specific evidence on which they are based; (9) when the Court of Appeals manifestly overlooked certain relevant facts not disputed by the parties and which, if properly considered, would justify a different conclusion; and (10) when the findings of fact of the Court of Appeals are premised on the absence of evidence and are contradicted by the evidence on record. [Citations omitted.] [Justice Ynares-Santiago, First Division, Go v. Court of Appeals, G.R. No. 112550, February 5, 2001]

Digest by R.B. Vera

2 arrested for robbery, kidnapping

By Andrea Trinidad-Echavez

TWO self-confessed members of a syndicate behind the robberies at Mercury Drugstore branches and the kidnapping of two foreigners earlier this year were arrested by members of the Central Police District Sunday afternoon.

Antonio Tulipas, 26, a native of Catarman, Samar and resident of Navotas; and Gemma Gidoc, 28, also a resident of Navotas, were said to be members of the Ariel Enriquez Group based in Quezon province, said police who arrested them in a house on Tanza Street in Navotas at 1:30 p.m. Sunday.

The group was also suspected to be behind the kidnapping for ransom of Singapore's Benedict Cheung and Hong Kong's Jolly Chan, police said. The foreigners were kidnapped on Jose Abad Santos Street in Manila in April. They reportedly paid at least P7 million in ransom.

Policemen from the district police intelligence unit (DPIU) said they found on the suspects one M-14 Armalite rifle and one .45 caliber pistol.

It's . . .

(From page A19)

pregnant with twins.

Muhlach has a 15-year-old son, Luigi, with actress Janice de Belen.

A battery of doctors, anesthesiologists and medical assistants attended to Charlene during the delivery. Her gynecologist was Dr. Greg Pastorfide, who was assisted by doctors Archie Banzon and Lizzie Honrado.

The chief anesthesiologist was Dr. Remedios Suntay, with doctors Rosario Cloma and Cely de Jesus.

The pediatricians were Dennis Garcia and Marilou Martinez.

₱15M Parañaque rob an inside job, say cops

By Christian V. Esguerra

ZULAIKAH Lending and Delivery Services in BF Homes Parañaque lost P15 million in cash to four armed men who broke into the office over the weekend in what police described as an inside job.

Wearing ski masks, the suspects entered the office around 9:30 a.m. on Nov. 2, according to PO3 Roque Torre and PO2 Valero Abad Bueno. They hogtied employees Renato Bacero, 58, and Jeron Belbeder, 23, and locked them in a toilet before taking the P15 million cash from the office vault, police said.

Parañaque police later detained Zulaikah vice president for operations Joseph Untal on suspicion that he was involved in the heist. He admitted to police that he allowed the suspects to enter the office and that he kept a part of the loot, police said.

Authorities recovered about P5.5 million from Untal's apartment in Camella Homes, Parañaque.

Police suspected that the robbery was an inside job since there were no signs of forcible entry. The office was protected by iron grills so it would have been nearly impossible for the suspects to enter it without conniving with an insider, police added.

Police were set to file robbery charges against Untal before the city prosecutor's office. The other suspects were still at large as of yesterday.

Secretary Hernando Perez on the hot seat

ON TARGET

Ramon Tulfo

THE "ATENEO mafia" at the Department of Justice, as reported yesterday by another newspaper, does exist, according to my sources in the department.

The alleged mafia-like group is headed by no less than Justice Secretary Hernando Perez, a graduate of the Ateneo University College of Law. He was for many years a professor at the Ateneo law school.

The core group at the DOJ is composed of Ateneo law graduates who were once Perez's students.

***

My sources in the Chinese community say a former crony of deposed President Erap gave a DOJ official P200 million so he would not be harassed by the Macapagal-Arroyo government for his smuggling activities in the past.

Who do you think was that DOJ official?

***

Another source said that another Erap crony gave the same DOJ official US$1 million so the department would not pursue a well-publicized case against him.

Who do you think was that DOJ official, and who was the bribe giver?

***

During the watch of Serafin Cuevas and Artemio Tuquero as justice secretary, case-fixing at the justice department was unheard of.

For all his shortcomings, Cuevas was never linked to case-fixing, according to my DOJ sources.

***"Palagi mong binabanatan noon si* Cuevas, *Mon, pero narinig mo na bang nasangkot yung matanda sa aregluhan ng kaso* (You always criticized Cuevas but did you ever hear the man's name being linked to case-fixing)?" one of my sources at the DOJ said.**

Yes, dear readers, Perez is the most controversial justice secretary in recent years.

***

It's now being openly discussed at the justice department that Perez will not be reappointed by the President in the event he's not confirmed by the Commission on Appointments.

The reports that Perez will not be reappointed have some basis because the newspaper that reported yesterday about "Ateneo mafia" at the Department of Justice is a pro-administration paper.

Past and present administrations have used pro-administration newspapers and other media outlets as their trial balloons. These media outlets are used as "listening posts" by an administration when it wants to know how the public will react to a decision it is about to make.

The non-bylined report by the pro-administration newspaper yesterday about the irregularities at the DOJ was meant to get the citizenry's reaction.

***

Since Perez took over as justice secretary after the ouster of Erap last January, he has been hounded by criticisms and adverse rumors.

One such criticism comes from Sen. Panfilo Lacson who, himself, is being hounded by his reported misdeeds when he was still a police officer.

Lacson said that Perez received a big amount from a foreign company which has a pending application with the government to operate in the country. The payoff reportedly took place in Hong Kong.

That was when the name of businessman Ernest Escaler surfaced.

As expected, Perez denied Lacson's accusation.

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1 (DTS)	DON'T SAY A WORD
2	DOS EKIS
3	ROSARIO 18
4	HIYAS
5 (SDDS)	GHOST OF MARS
6	SAKIM
7 (DOLBY)	JOY RIDE
8	AAGOS ANG DUGO

Ortigas
tel 656.6795

1	AAGOS ANG DUGO
2	SAKIM
3 (DTS)	DON'T SAY A WORD
4	ROSARIO 18
5 (SDDS)	GHOST OF MARS

Universal
(Manila) tel 733.2470

1	AAGOS ANG DUGO

Sampaguita
(Cubao) tel 911.7888

1	AAGOS ANG DUGO

Dilson
(Manila) tel 734.7724

Dilson	ROSARIO 18
Lords	ROSARIO 18
Jennet	SAKIM

MARKETPLACE
Mandaluyong
tel 533.3851 / 533.3856

1	DON'T SAY A WORD
2	GHOST OF MARS
3	SAKIM

Prima
(Pasig) tel 641.1215

3	SAKIM

Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto
SUPER CINERAMA
tel 733.4238

1 (DOLBY)	DOS EKIS
2	DON'T SAY A WORD
3	RESERVE
4	RESERVE
5	RESERVE

New Divisoria Mall
DIVISORIA CINEMA
tel 244.4619

1	AAGOS ANG DUGO
2	SAKIM
3	ROSARIO 18
4	RESERVE
5	RESERVE
6	GHOST OF MARS

Baclaran LRT
LRT CINEMA
tel 512.0115

1 (DOLBY)	RESERVE
2	SAKIM
3	AAGOS ANG DUGO

Berma
tel 879.2029

1	ROSARIO 18
2	AAGOS ANG DUGO

CitiMall
(Parañaque) tel 820.7269

1	ROSARIO 18
2	SAKIM
3	RESERVE
4	RESERVE

CINEMA 2000

Cinema 2000 Target Mall
(Sta. Rosa Laguna)
tel (049) 534.2185 / 534.2198

1	GHOST OF MARS
2	DOS EKIS
3 (DTS)	DON'T SAY A WORD

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383

1	DOWN TO EARTH
2 (DTS)	DOS EKIS
3 (DOLBY)	GHOST OF MARS
4	DON'T SAY A WORD

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Biñan) tel (049) 411.1146

1	DOS EKIS
2 (DOLBY)	GHOST OF MARS
3 (DTS)	DON'T SAY A WORD
4	DOWN TO EARTH

Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771

1	AMERICAN PIE 2
2	DOS EKIS
3	
4	

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276

1 (SDDS)	DON'T SAY A WORD
2	SAKIM
3	ROSARIO 18
4 (DTS)	GHOST OF MARS

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202

1 (DOLBY)	GHOST OF MARS
2	DOS EKIS
3 (DTS)	DON'T SAY A WORD
4	HIYAS
5	DOWN TO EARTH

Olivarez Tri-Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.8883

1	DOS EKIS
2	GHOST OF MARS
3	DON'T SAY A WORD

Olivarez Los Baños
tel (049) 536.5101

1	GHOST OF MARS
2	DOWN TO EARTH
3	DON'T SAY A WORD

Olivarez Tagaytay
tel (046) 413.0311

1	TRAINING DAY
2	MANANABAS
3	NAKED NIGHT

Morales Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.9736

1	DON'T SAY A WORD
2	DOWN TO EARTH
3	

Cabuyao
(Laguna City) tel (049) 531.4808

1 (DTS)	HIYAS
2 (DTS)	

Fourstep
(Cavite) tel (046) 416.2385

1	CLOSED

Emperor
(Rosario Cavite) tel (046) 438.1657

1	MARITAL RAPE
2	HIYAS
3	DOS EKIS

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790

1	MANANABAS
2	LEGALLY BLONDE
3	AMERICAN PIE 2
4	13 DAYS

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03

1 (DOLBY EX)	THE BODY
2	NAKED NIGHT
3	
4 (DTS EX)	LEGALLY BLONDE

*Movies are subject to change without prior notice

ADVANCED SCREENING THX DOLBY DIGITAL dts SDDS

THX
CMG INTERNATIONAL

PREMIERE CINEMA THX
NOW SHOWING
JOY RIDE

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD

e-mail [illegible]
http://www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

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State-Of-The-Art-Cinemas

GALLERIA
632 9115 16 /633-7641 loc. 279

1 THX	DON'T SAY A WORD
2	DOWN TO EARTH
3	DON'T SAY A WORD
4	TRAINING DAY
5	GHOST OF MARS
6	SILENT JAY BOB STRIKE
7	LEGALLY BLONDE
8	DOS EKIS
9	LEGALLY BLONDE
10	AMERICAN PIE 2

ERMITA
536-7809 TO 12

1	GHOST OF MARS
2	LEGALLY BLONDE
3	TRAINING DAY
4	SILENT JAY BOB STRIKE
5	DOS EKIS
6	DOWN TO EARTH
7	DON'T SAY A WORD

NOVALICHES
935-3229 TO 31

1	DON'T SAY A WORD
2	LEGALLY BLONDE
3	DOWN TO EARTH
4	DON'T SAY A WORD
5	DOS EKIS
6	DOS EKIS
7	GHOST OF MARS
8	SILENT JAY BOB STRIKE

IMUS
(046) 471-8168

1	GHOST OF MARS
2	DOS EKIS
3	SAKIM
4	DON'T SAY A WORD
5	DOWN TO EARTH
6	SILENT JAY BOB STRIKE

BACOLOD
(034) 441-0453

1	OSMOSIS JONES
2	THE BODY
3	MANANABAS
4	THE HOLE
5	AMERICA'S SWEETHEART
6	13 DAYS

SOON TO OPEN

METRO EAST
SAN FERNANDO PAMPANGA
ILOILO

THX dts SDDS DOLBY DOLBY STEREO

SMART MONEY ACCEPTED AT ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD GALLERIA AND ERMITA.

THEATER MOVIE GUIDE

ARANETA CENTER THEATERS 911-3101

ALI MALL CINEPLEX-1	SANGGANO'T SANGGAGO
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-2	MANANABAS
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-3 (DDS)	13 DAYS
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-4 (SDDS)	AMERICAN PIE
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-5 (DTS)	AMERICA'S SWEETHEART
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-6 (DOLBY)	EXTREME FORCE
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-7 (DOLBY)	THE HOLE
FARMERS PLAZA-1 (DOLBY)	NAKED NIGHTS
FARMERS PLAZA-2 (DOLBY)	MANANABAS
FIESTA CARNIVAL	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
NEW FRONTIER	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
MANILA	
EASTERN	
MAXIM	CLOSED
MIRAMAR	IRA / CLIMAX
ODEON	DOS EKIS
ODEON-2	TRAINING DAY
ROBEN	HIYAS SA PARAISO
TANDEM-1	SEX MEDUSA
TANDEM-2	SEX EDUCATION
TIMES	BROTHERHOOD / STOP
QUEZON CITY	
ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	CLOSED
ACT-4	CLOSED
CORONET-2	ORIGINAL SIN
QUEZON-1	HIYAS SA PARAISO
REMAR	DOS EKIS
REMAR-2	MANANABAS
NOVA MALL - NOVALICHES CINEMA	
A	SAKIM SA PAG IBIG
B	DOS EKIS
C	ROSARIO 18
MANDALUYONG CITY	
SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-61 TO 70
CINEMA-1	DON'T SAY A WORD
CINEMA-2	JOY RIDE
CAINTA RIZAL	
STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-5401 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	MARITAL RAPE
CINEMA-2	NAKED NIGHTS
CINEMA-3	SANGGANO'T SANGGAGO
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	AMERICA'S SWEETHEARTS
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	13 DAYS
CINEMA-6	SISID
CINEMA-7	LA VIDA ROSA
CINEMA-8	DOS EKIS
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	AMERICAN PIE 2
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	TRAINING DAY
CINEMA-11 (SDDS)	LEGALLY BLONDE
CINEMA-12	THE BODY
CINEMA-14	MANANABAS
CINEMA-15	DOS EKIS
LORES	
CINEMA-2	CLOSED
CINEMA-3	CLOSED
POWER PLANT CINEMA	
CINEMA-1	JOY RIDE
CINEMA-2	DOWN TO EARTH
CINEMA-3	LEGALLY BLONDE
CINEMA-4	TRAINING DAY
CINEMA-5	GHOST OF MARS
CINEMA-6	DON'T SAY A WORD
UNIWIDE METROMALL	
(LAS PIÑAS)	
CINEMA-1	
CINEMA-2	
CINEMA-4	
UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL	
(PARAÑAQUE)	
CINEMA-1	AMORSEKO
CINEMA-2	TOTAL AIKIDO
CINEMA-4	DIBDIBAN ANG LABAN

'Trip' movie premiere

ISLANDS Souvenirs, the leading souvenir brand in the country, is a licensee partner of ABS-CBN in the Star Cinema movie, "Trip," which will have a special premiere tonight at Cinema 10 of SM Megamall.

Islands Souvenirs translated the theme of the youth-oriented movie into a fun line of apparel and accessories that were worn by the cast comprised of Kristine Hermosa, Marvin Agustin, Jericho Rosales, Heart Evangelista, John Pratts, Julia Clarete, Paolo Contis, Onemig Bondoc and Desiree del Valle.

Islands Souvenirs national director for marketing Lyndon Angan says the company decided to license the "Trip" products from ABS-CBN since the theme of the movie revolves around the youth and their journey around the Philippines.

You can have a special chance to win "Ito ang Trip Ko" T-shirts by Islands Souvenirs during the movie premier tonight. Simply bring a "Trip" movie flyer to the Islands Souvenirs store at the 3rd Level of Bldg. A of SM Megamall from 5 to 8 p.m. and you instantly win a T-shirt.

Janice . . .

(From page A30)

never married though we have a love child, **Luigi**. We were both very young then, so my perception of love was different. I loved Aga unconditionally. It's strange, but sometimes I think I knew more what love was when I was younger than I do now. As we get older and experience more pain in love, it kind of blurs your idea about love. I also loved John to the fullest. I never thought it would end. I would rather fail at work or in a diet and not in my marriage but unfortunately I did.

What lesson did Aga and John teach you?

J: With Aga, to wait for the right time. With John, to leave a little for myself.

How are your kids taking it?

J: I've always been honest with them. As much as possible I don't want them to see me cry. I guess the recovery of the kids really depends on how fast I recover.

Didn't Aga ever give you advice regarding John?

J: You know him. He's not into giving advice but in his own quiet way I know he's supportive of Luigi and me.

When will you be emotionally ready to fall in love again?

J: You can't plan when to fall. It hits you when it hits you. But now I don't go out on dates, not even group dates, just friends. I'm enjoying my new-found freedom too much. I want to keep it this way for now.

What's your birthday gift for yourself?

J: I bought myself a laptop.

Personal

HI to **Allan Andan** of Sandigan Bank and **Jun Guillermo** of Malolos Lion's Club. Thanks for "Dollywooding" with me.

For feedback, e-mail wateringhole2000@yahoo.com

ENTERTAINMENT

LOUIE C. CAMINO, Editor

Janno's turn

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

JANNO Gibbs started his show biz career 17 long years ago, as a member of "That's Entertainment." That early, his unique combination of outstanding singing voice and deft and daft comic timing had already manifested itself. But it took many years before he got to play lead roles on TV and in the movies.

Blame that on Janno's "small and wonderful" physical packaging, and his perpetually boyish appeal. Of late, however, he has finally been coming into his own, successfully topbilling some comedy movies and a number of TV programs.

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DOLLYWOOD

Dolly Anne Carvajal

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Janice and I spent Halloween "exorcising" the ghosts from our past.

To my dear *Kumareng* Janice: May you look back and look forward with a big smile in your heart knowing that you always gave it your all. Happy Birthday, from one love fool to another.

Dolly: Will it be a happier birthday for you this year minus John?

Janice: It will be different. I don't know if it's the freedom that"s giving me happiness now. It just feels good to find myself. I lost my individuality when I was so blindly in love with John. My favorite song now is "Butterfly" by **Mariah Carey**. It's so me. I have morphed into a completely new me.

So how are you going to celebrate your birthday?

J: I've never been one for throwing parties. Too much hassle to entertain. I'll probably go out with friends and family, although I told my mom I feel like really celebrating this year for a change. I have many reasons to celebrate.

Are you even half-hoping that John would remember you on Nov. 9?

J: I don't think he would but if he does okay *lang.*

I've reached a point where I have no more expectations.

How's your relationship with John now?

J: We're civil but not exactly friendly. When he comes to visit the kids, hi, hello *lang*, but if we have to talk about something regarding the kids, we're open. I'm sure he will remember that it's also the birthday of our youngest, **Yuan.** We have the same birthday and he's turning 3. We have no problems when it comes to the kids. But when it comes to our individual lives, we don't interfere.

Doesn't he tease you that you're blooming now? And thinner, too?

J: Sometimes he does but he knows his limits when it comes to his joking with me. I've made it very clear where our boundaries lie.

What if he tries to win you back years from now?

J: Things are too strained now. I don't think I'll ever take him back. Even if he sincerely repents, the past will always haunt me. How can we be happy that way?

Is your separation with John more painful than your parting with Aga (Muhlach)?

J: To a certain extent, yes. Aga and I were

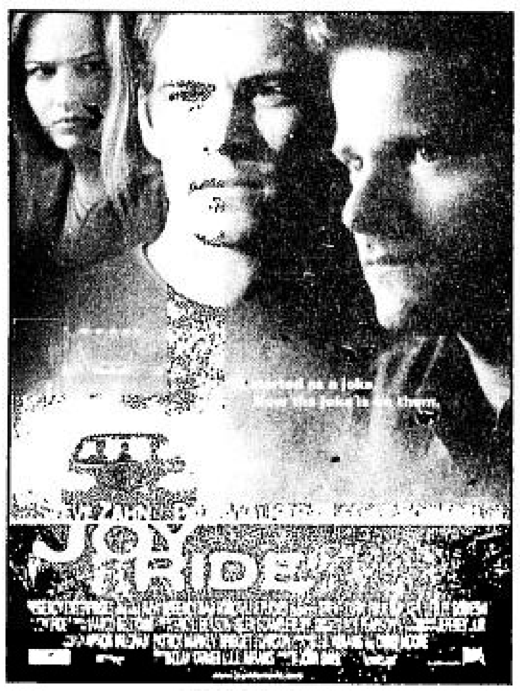
JANICE/ A29

POWER PLANT
CINEMA
Rockwell Center, Makati City ☎ Tel. No: 8981440-41 DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX

JOY RIDE - P 13 11:10, 1:20, 3:30, 5:40, 7:50, 10:00	DOWN TO EARTH - P 13 11:45, 1:50, 3:55, 6:00, 8:05, 10:10	LEGALLY BLONDE - P 13 11:20, 1:30, 3:40, 5:50, 8:00, 10:10
TRAINING DAY - R 18 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00	GHOST OF MARS - R 18 1:10, 3:20, 5:30, 7:40, 9:50	DON'T SAY A WORD - P 13 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00

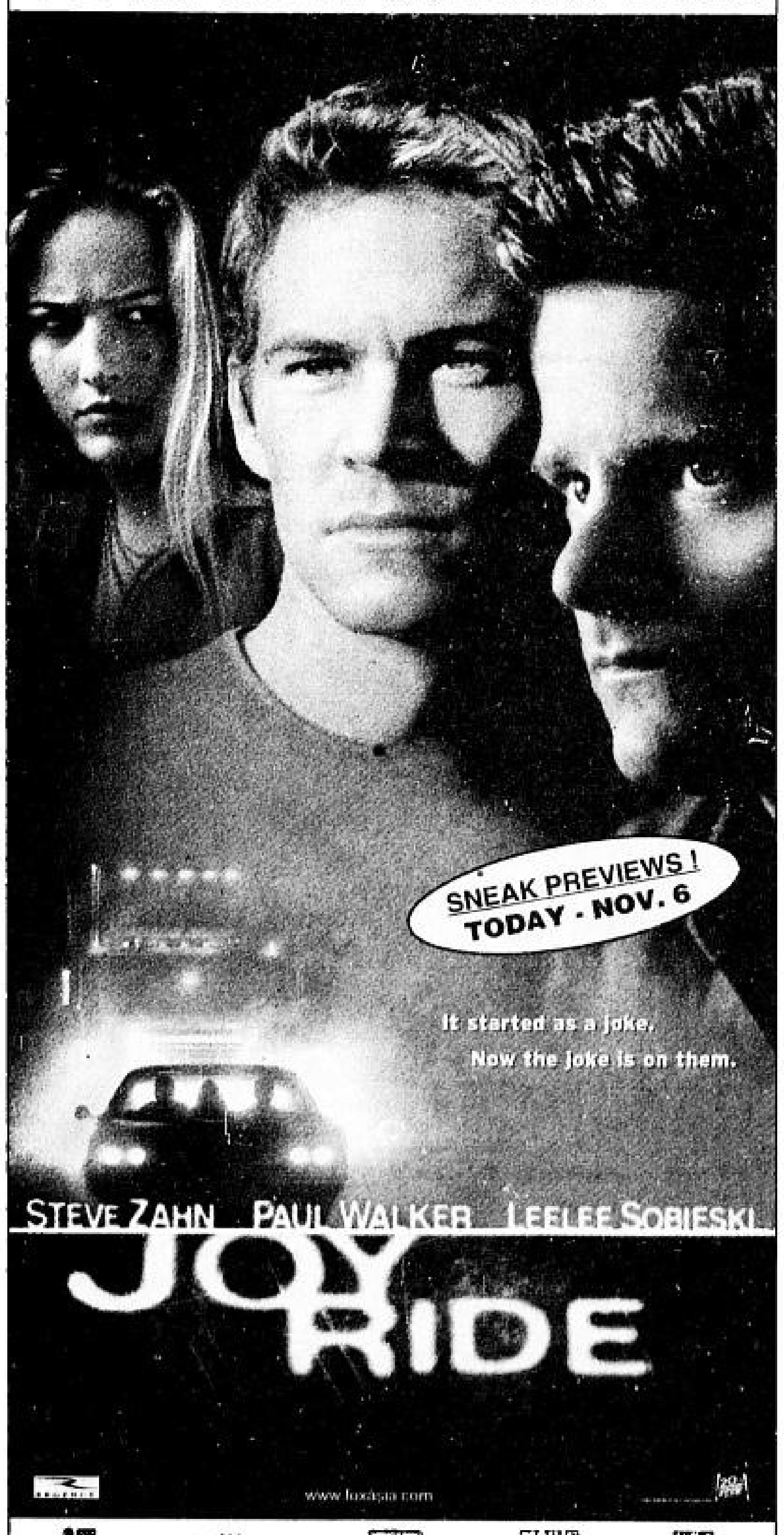
Matinee, P80, Mon.-Fri.,11:00 am to 4:45 pm Screenings, Free Seating.

SM CINEMA
BE THE FIRST TO WATCH THE SPECIAL SNEAK PREVIEW OF



MTRCB RATING: PG13
Tickets available on
November 5 (Mon)
November 6 (Tue)
SM MANILA • NORTH EDSA • MEGAMALL • BACOOR
SOUTHMALL • FAIRVIEW • CENTERPOINT

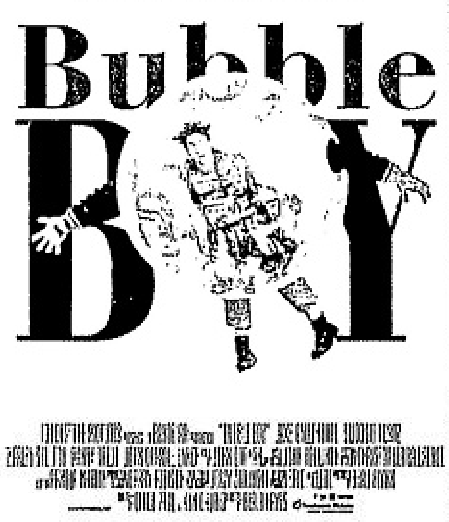
MTRCB RATING PG - 13 Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult
FASTEN YOUR SEATBELT
'COZ THIS WILL BE ONE HELL OF A RIDE!



SNEAK PREVIEWS ! TODAY - NOV. 6
It started as a joke. Now the joke is on them.
STEVE ZAHN PAUL WALKER LEELEE SOBIESKI
JOY RIDE
www.foxasia.com

DISTRIBUTED BY TWENTIENTH CENTURY FOX THRU WARNER BROS
OPENS NOV. 14

MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13
Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult
LIFE IS AN ADVENTURE. DON'T BLOW IT.



IMAGINE LIVING YOUR LIFE INSIDE A PLASTIC BUBBLE...
Meet Jimmy Livingston (Jake Gyllenhaal), a 17-year-old kid who has all the normal experiences of a boy growing up, except he lives in a plastic bubble.

Then he falls in love, but the girl he wants will marry another---if he does not stop the wedding in time. So, Jimmy builds a bubble suit.

The movie is an outrageously funny road trip across the U.S., where Jimmy meets bikers, rock stars, freaks and a cult, racing against time and his parents, who are determined to bring him back to the safety of his "bubble room."
A hilarious coming-of-age comedy for anyone who has ever been in love.
LOOK OUT, WORLD, HERE COMES BUBBLE BOY!
OPENS IN CINEMAS ON NOV. 14

MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13
Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult

THE ONE
REVOLUTION STUDIOS
SONY.COM/THEONE

All-new 'MATRIX'-style sci-fi actioner
Jet Li vs. Jet Li in 'THE ONE'
What if you discovered the most dangerous man in the universe was you?
Jet Li the hero and Jet Li the villain square off in Columbia Pictures' new stunt & special efx-packed sci-fi action thriller, "The One."
The hero is Gabe, a sheriff deputy. He must thwart his predator Yulaw, an evil agent in a parallel universe who gains super power and strength with every alternate self he destroys. Gabe is his ultimate prey.
"The One" features spectacular fight scenes choreographed by the best Hong Kong martial artists, and astounding special effects in the tradition of "The Matrix" and "Terminator 2." Action fans will applaud the non-stop thrill ride of Jet Li's latest mega-blockbuster.
Bakbakan na! OPENS TOMORROW!

AYALA CINEMAS
ARTFILM - GLORIETTA 4
OPENS TOMORROW
MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult.
"Beautiful And Powerful!"
"Two Thumbs Up!"

BUTTERFLY'S TONGUE
PHILIPPINE PREMIERE
The Best Film About The Impact of The Spanish War @ ARTFILM - Glorietta 4
In the tradition of "Cinema Paradiso," BUTTERFLY'S TONGUE explores the extraordinary relationship between a shy young boy, Moncho, and his incredibly compassionate teacher, Don Gregorio, who teaches Moncho to find his way in a world that is increasingly frightening. When the Spanish Civil war breaks out on July 18, 1936, everything for the boy and his hero will unexpectedly change.
BUTTERFLY'S TONGUE stars the Spanish legend FERNANDO FERNAN GOMEZ who has a career that spans five decades as an actor, novelist, poet, and director. In 1998, he won the Goya (Spanish Oscar) for Best Lead Actor for his latest film "The Grandfather." The film also stars MANUEL LOZANO, UXIA BLANCO, GONZALO MARTIN URIARTE, ALEXIS de los SANTOS and GUILLERMO TOLEDO. The film won Best Film at the Cleveland International Film Festival & Best Screenplay at the Goya Awards.
Directed by JOSÉ LUIS CUERDA and written by RAFAEL AZCONA, BUTTERFLY'S TONGUE is based upon the MANUEL RIVAS novel Que Me Quieres, Amor?.
Language: Spanish with English subtitles

ATTENTION! GAME KNB? TEXT PARTNERS!
Beginning Sunday, 11 November 2001 MAS MALAKI NA ang chance mong manalo!*
Win up to P1,000,000 linggo-linggo!
GAME KNB?
Dahil para sa amin, kayo pa rin ang NUMERO UNO!
MALALAMAN MO NA ANG SIKRETO NGAYONG LINGGO!
KAYA TUTOK NA!
ABS-CBN

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I've reached a point where I have no more expectations.

How's your relationship with John now?

J: We're civil but not exactly friendly. When he comes to visit the kids, hi, hello *lang*, but if we have to talk about something regarding the kids, we're open. I'm sure he will remember that it's also the birthday of our youngest, **Yuan**. We have the same birthday and he's turning 3. We have no problems when it comes to the kids. But when it comes to our individual lives, we don't interfere.

Doesn't he tease you that you're blooming now? And thinner, too?

J: Sometimes he does but he knows his limits when it comes to his joking with me. I've made it very clear where our boundaries lie.

What if he tries to win you back years from now?

J: Things are too strained now. I don't think I'll ever take him back. Even if he sincerely repents, the past will always haunt me. How can we be happy that way?

Is your separation with John more painful than your parting with Aga (Muhlach)?

J: To a certain extent, yes. Aga and I were

JANICE/ A29

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TRAINING DAY - R 18 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00	GHOST OF MARS - R 18 1:10, 3:20, 5:30, 7:40, 9:50	DON'T SAY A WORD - P 13 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00

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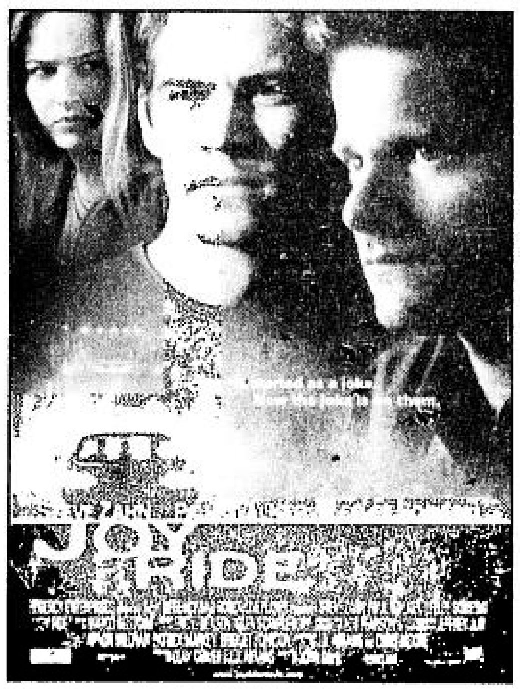

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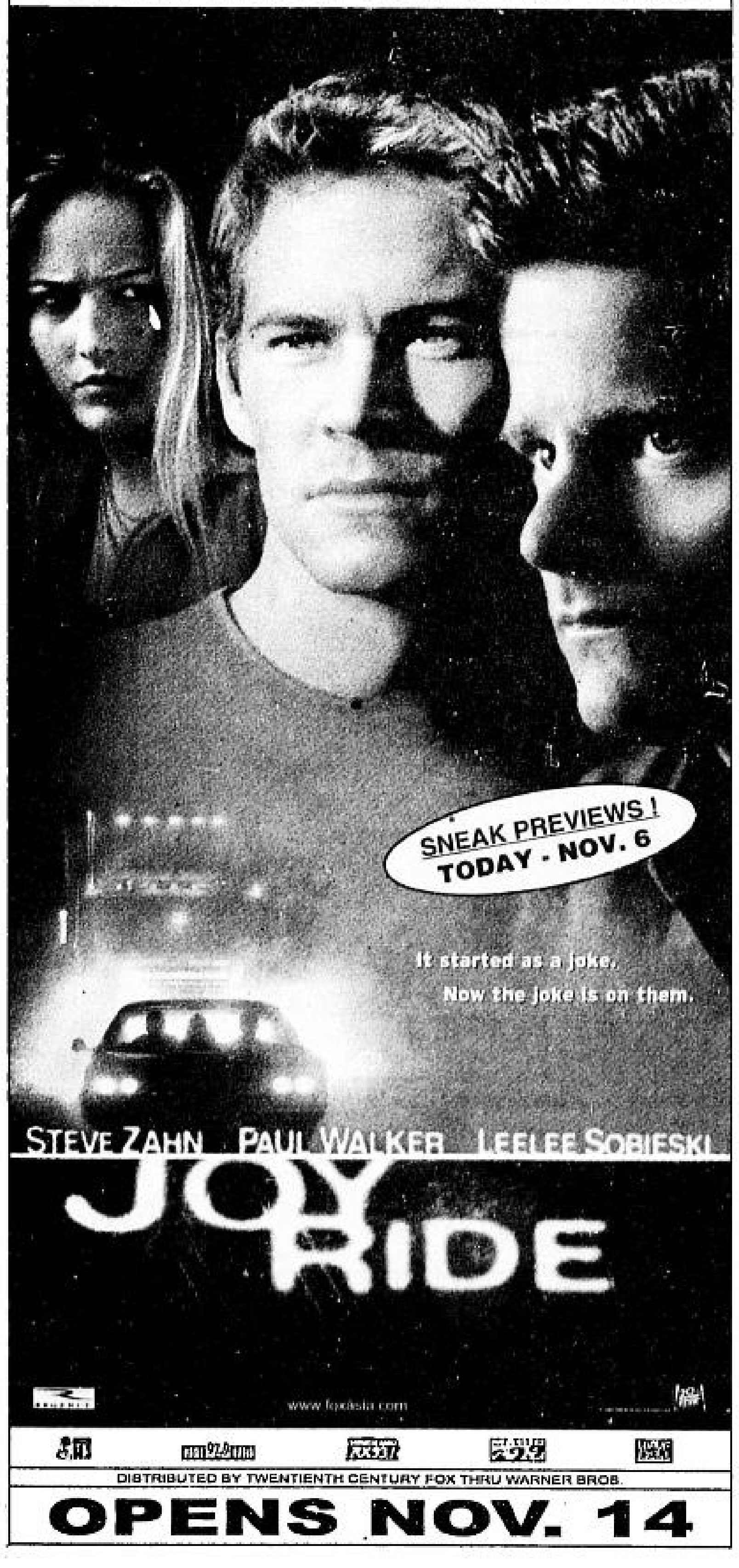
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BUTTERFLY'S TONGUE stars the Spanish legend FERNANDO FERNAN GOMEZ who has a career that spans five decades as an actor, novelist, poet, and director. In 1998, he won the Goya (Spanish Oscar) for Best Lead Actor for his latest film "The Grandfather." The film also stars MANUEL LOZANO, UXIA BLANCO, GONZALO MARTIN URIARTE, ALEXIS de los SANTOS and GUILLERMO TOLEDO. The film won Best Film at the Cleveland International Film Festival & Best Screenplay at the Goya Awards.

Directed by JOSÉ LUIS CUERDA and written by RAFAEL AZCONA, BUTTERFLY'S TONGUE is based upon the MANUEL RIVAS novel Que Me Quieres, Amor?.

Language: Spanish with English subtitles

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Inflation hits 12-month low in October

BY DORIS C. DUMLAO

THE COUNTRY'S inflation rate slid to a 12-month low of 5.4 percent in October from 6.1 percent in September due to the combined impact of oil price rollbacks, favorable weather conditions and weak consumer demand.

But the question among analysts was whether the slow year-on-year inflation rate, which fell even lower than the average of 5.9 percent expected for the month, would be enough to prompt monetary authorities to cut key interest rates to boost the sagging economy.

The National Statistics Office reported yesterday that the indices for the country's key commodity groups dropped across the board. The index for food, beverage and tobacco slowed down to 3.9 percent from 4.2 percent in September; clothing, to 3.5 percent from 3.9 percent; housing and repairs, 6.9 percent from 7.4 percent; fuel, light and water, 9.3 percent from 10.3 percent; services, 9.1 percent from 11.3 percent; and, miscellaneous items, 3.5 percent from 4.1 percent.

On a regional basis, inflation rate in the National Capital Region slipped to 6.1 percent from 6.7 percent in September due to the softer movements in the prices of food and services. Inflation outside Metro Manila also fell to 5.2 percent from 5.9 percent due to across-the-board declines in commodity groups.

"The downtrend in inflation for October, and even for the rest of the year, is not surprising because there are no price pressures. Oil prices are trending down, at least for the time being," BPI Securities economist Ces Tanchioco said.

As no major typhoons or other weather aberrations hit the country, there was likewise ample supply of food.

Despite the initial jitters arising from the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks in the United States, there was no appetite among consumers to hoard goods. Instead, the Filipino consumers chose the more conservative path of holding on to cash rather than spending aggressively in view of the difficult economic conditions.

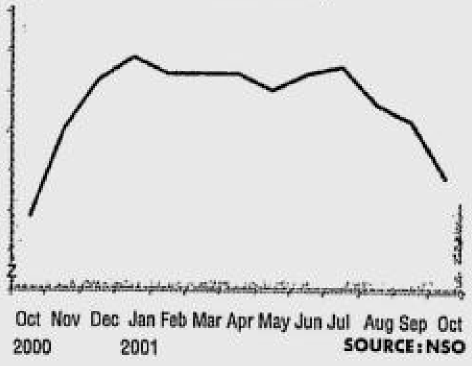
Chinatrust treasurer Roland Avante said the lower-than-expected inflation rate would give more elbow room for the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas to ease its grip on interest rates.

"One consideration why the BSP has been cautious in cutting rates is that a low-interest rate regime will create problems on the exchange rate. But in Asia, we still have the highest level of interest rates," Avante said.

INFLATION/ B4

Inflation Rates

(Oct. 2000 to Oct. 2001)

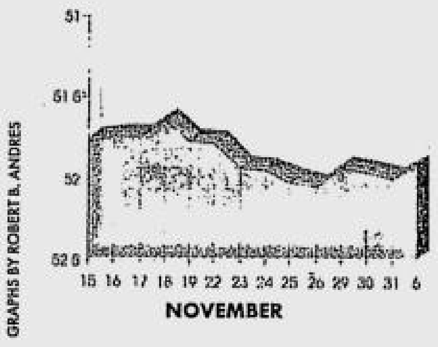


SOURCE: NSO

INDICATORS

CURRENCIES

PESO - DOLLAR



GRAPHS BY ROBERT B. ANDRES

Peso-Dollar Rate

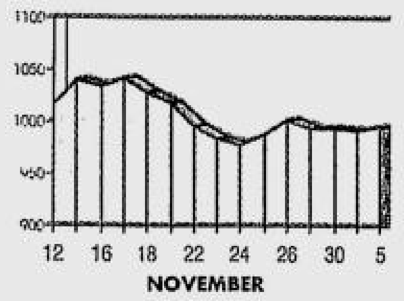
₱51.92 = $1
As of 5 p.m.,
Nov. 5, 2001

¥121.74 = $1
As of 5 p.m.,
Nov. 5, 2001

GOLD:$279.50/280.00
per ounce Hong Kong,
Nov. 5, 2001

STOCK MARKET

PSE Composite Index



(See stock market report on Page B4)

Shares rise 0.4%

SHARE prices closed 0.4 percent higher yesterday in selective bargain hunting, with investors largely ignoring a 22-percent drop in exports in September, analysts said.

The Philippine Stock Exchange composite index added 4.15 points to close at 997.50.

Volume and value were higher at 168.43 shares worth P540.94 million from Wednesday's 79.66 million shares worth P321.92 million.

The market was closed Thursday and Friday last week on official holidays.

Analysts said many investors were still concerned over an expected global economic slowdown, a continued kidnapping spree by Muslim gunmen in the South as well as persistent rumors of coup attempts against President Macapagal-Arroyo.

"This slow market is just a reflection of the whole situation here, politically and economically. The total market is very slow, there's nothing to perk up activity," said Harry Liu of Summit Securities Inc.

Oliver Plana at Asiasec Equities said there was bargain hunting on issues "that have been oversold the past couple of weeks." *AFP*

Treasury rejects all T-bill bids anew

BANKS' continued attempt to drive up interest rates in anticipation of a higher budget deficit was again thwarted by the government yesterday when the auction committee led by the Bureau of Treasury rejected all bids for treasury bills for the second straight week.

National Treasury Sergio Edeza said news of a much lower inflation rate of 5.4 percent for October should have been enough to push the bids of the fixed-income market lower.

Before the auction, Edeza was adamant that treasury bill should go down or the government would simply reject the bids. "I had warned them, it has to be down or nothing," he said.

Had the government accepted the bids, the yield on the benchmark 91-day treasury bills would have gone up by 43.3 basis points to 10.351 percent, while rates of the six-month and one-year treasuries would have soared by 58.8 points to 12.762 and by 47.7 points to 13.539 percent.

Because the offers were deemed unaccept-

TREASURY/ B4

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Prof. Gaston D. Ortigas, Jr. is the Chief Information Officer of AIM. He also teaches Total Quality Management, Operations Management, and Information Management. Among his current research areas of interest are Sustainable Enterprise Management, Electronic Commerce, Knowledge Management, and Flexible Learning Methodologies.

Ricky A. Lim

Prof. Ricky A. Lim conducts classes and seminars in Information Technology, Knowledge Management, and Business Communications. He is a doctoral candidate at the Marshall School of Business at University of Southern California. His dissertation topic is on "Cognitive Maps in ISD Teams".

Jose Jesus F. Roces

Prof. Jose Jesus F. Roces' specializations encompass Marketing, Finance and Human Resource Development, with particular emphasis on strategic marketing, e-marketing, and CRM. Prof. Roces holds a Master's degree in Business Administration from the University of Miami. He is currently the president of the Philippine Marketing Association and with the board of the Asia-Pacific Marketing Federation.

Armi Ruby Marie H. Cortes

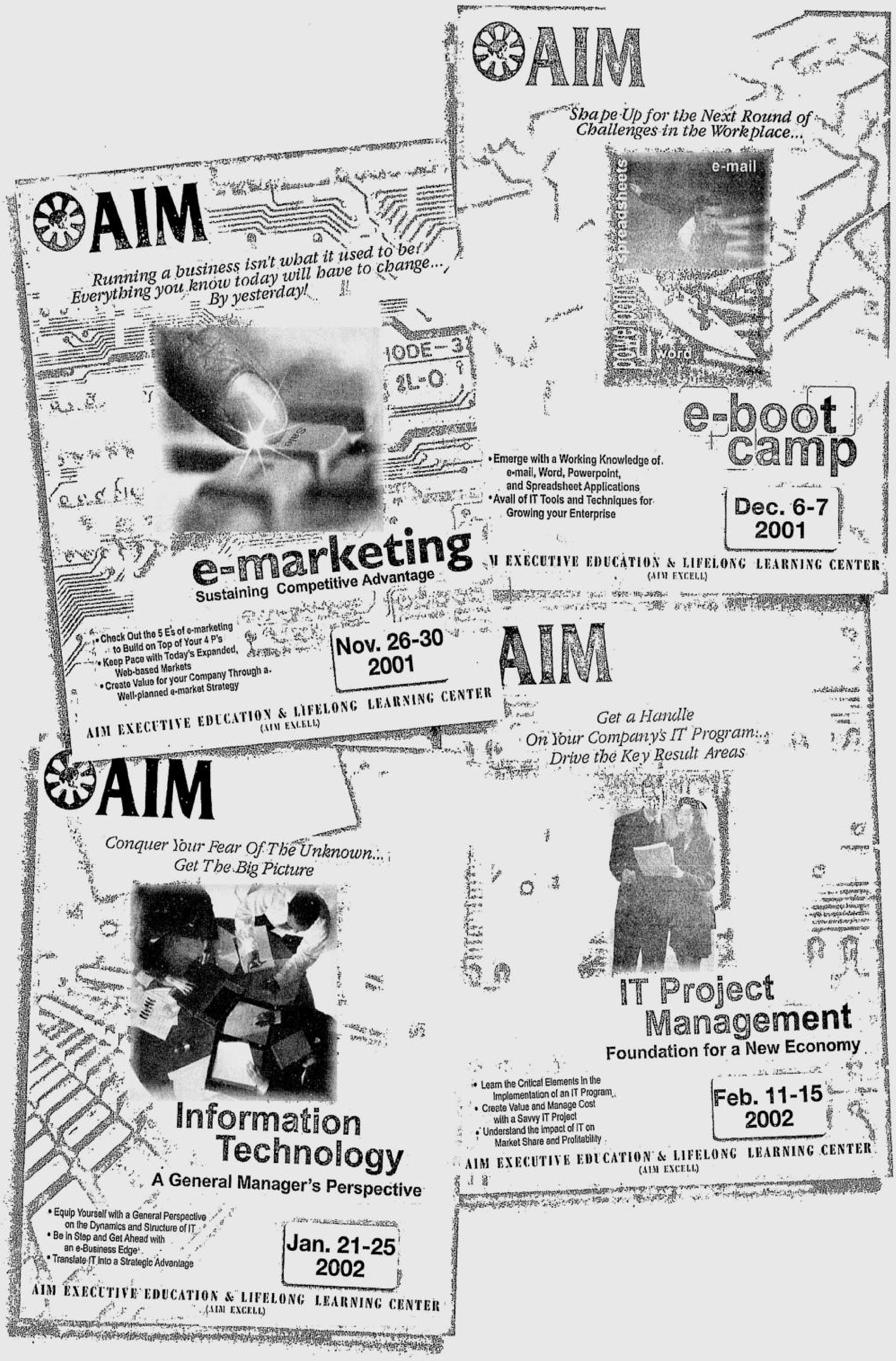
Prof. Armi Ruby Marie H. Cortes teaches Information Technology Management, e-Commerce, and e-Governance. She is an active IT e-Commerce practitioner and consultant. She served as an industry specialist for DAI-Agile, an organization under the umbrella of the USAID. She is an active member of the IT Search Committee of the Philippine Computer Society.

Edgardo B. Herbosa

Prof. Edgardo B. Herbosa founded b2bpricenow.com, the Philippines' first free e-trade site, which enables cooperatives and SMEs in the agriculture sector to harness the benefits of information and communication technology in development. Prof. Herbosa has a Master in International Management from The American Graduate School of International Management in Arizona, U.S.A. He is Director for Education of the Philippine Internet Computer Society.

Armi de Guzman-Treñas

Prof. Armi de Guzman-Treñas was formerly deputy president for the IT Division of Transnational Diversified Group, initiating the development and implementation of that company's business process outsourcing, call center, and e-training operations. She has a Master in Management from AIM, with distinction.



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PDI 110601

PNB deal signing seen this month

BY CLARISSA S. BATINO

THE MACAPAGAL administration and the group of Lucio Tan will sign within the month a deal on the conversion of government debt in Philippine National Bank into equity at a conversion price of P40 per share.

Finance Secretary Jose Isidro Camacho said the agreement would also spell out how the issue of the PNB advances in behalf of the government would be treated as well as a resolution on management control and the future joint sale of the equities of Tan and the government.

"The signing of the negotiation would happen if not this week then next week. I want it signed first before I give you the details of the deal that has not been finalized," Camacho said.

The finance chief explained that the announcement made by President Macapagal-Arroyo that the government has reached a settlement with Tan on PNB was made after securing an assurance from the taipan that he was agreeable to the general terms of the debt-to-equity conversion as well as the bank's rehabilitation.

"The President and Lucio Tan was in the same plane from China to Manila and in front of other businessmen, Mr. Tan had confirmed that he generally agrees with the plan. This was the basis of the President's statement," Camacho said.

Another government source explained that the P25 billion in emergency loan—P15 billion from the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas and P10 billion from Philippine Deposit Insurance Corp.—would be lumped as one but treated in three ways.

The priority is to convert close to P8 billion of the PNB debts into government equity.

This would increase the government's ownership in the country's sixth biggest bank to 45 percent and consequently dilute the taipan's 67-percent stake to 45 percent. The remaining 10 percent in PNB would be accounted for by the public.

The next step is to pay off at most P10 billion of the government advances from the bank. Sources said the government would only pay no more than P10 billion of the so-called advances that PNB was claiming to have reached P13 billion. The money that the Bureau of Customs had used to pay imports inspector SGS, for instance, was advanced from PNB.

After the two measures are completed, the government—through the central bank—would restructure the remaining P7 billion in PNB loans as part of the rehabilitation package.

The plan, the source said, was to allow the bank to pay off the remaining amount over the next eight years or at least longer than five years.

On management control, the agreement of the two parties was for the government to nominate the board members up to senior management and Tan would be the one to choose from the list.

This means that the bank would have a new set of directors and management once the rehabilitation is implemented.

On the joint sale, the agreement of both parties was to sell jointly after the bank shall have recovered in three years time. When asked what Tan would get from agreeing to rehabilitate PNB, Camacho said that the taipan would naturally want to recover his investments in the bank.

Insurance agency eyed to oversee pre-need firms

BY ELENA R. TORRIJOS

THE CAPITAL Market Development Council, a public-private sector working group, has agreed to push for legislation that would transfer regulation over pre-need companies to the Office of the Insurance Commission from the Securities and Exchange Commission, SEC chair Lilia Bautista said.

The Insurance Commission, which supervises insurance companies, is believed to have the actuarial expertise to best handle pre-need companies because of the similarity in the operations of both types of firms.

Currently, some pending bills in Congress provide for regulation of the pre-need sector under the Insurance Commission, but other pending bills allow supervision to be kept with the SEC.

Bautista said the Insurance Commission was amenable to taking over the pre-need sector while the SEC was willing to give up its power over pre-need companies because this would allow the corporate watchdog to develop a futures exchange.

The SEC has delayed the processing of applications for the establishment of a futures exchange because of lack of manpower and other constraints.

"We are not ready. We are still studying how best to handle this thing (futures exchange)," Bautista said.

Bautista also said that the Philippine Federation for Pre-Need Companies preferred to stay under the SEC but would bow to the government's policy decision that the industry should be placed under the Insurance Commission instead.

The SEC last year began to tighten its rules governing pre-need companies following the failure of some to meet the benefit claims of planholders and the large trust fund deficiencies of some large pre-need companies.

The first circular of the SEC under Bautista's leadership was to limit the investments of pre-need companies in stocks and real estate and related companies.

The SEC found that the failure of some companies was due to bad investments, mainly in stocks and real estate, and wrong financial assumptions.

Pre-need companies have until April next year to dispose of excess investments in equities and up to October next year to sell excess investments in property.

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CALATAGAN GOLF CLUB A/B*	-	100,000/105,000 *
CAMP JOHN HAY	-	300,000
CANLUBANG	-	800,000
CAPITOL HILLS	115,000	130,000
CELEBRITY SPORTS CLUB	-	200,000
EAGLE RIDGE A/B*/C**	350,000/520,000 **	375,000/450,000*/700,000 **
EVERCREST A/B*	-	100,000/150,000 *
FONTANA D/C*/B**	120,000 *	90,000/150,000*/280,000 **
FOREST HILLS A/B*/C**	210,000	240,000/350,000*/450,000 **
LUISITA GOLF CLUB	500,000	Please call or swap
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MANILA GOLF CLUB CORP.	-	14M
MANILA POLO CLUB	2,575,000	2,800,000
MANILA SOUTHWOODS A/B*	-	700,000/800,000 *
METROPOLITAN A/B*	-	150,000/160,000 *
MIMOSA IND./CORP.*	-	240,000/375,000 *
MT. MALARAYAT A/C* (w/lot)**/B***	340,000 ***	350,000/450,000*/2.0M **
ORCHARD A/B*/C**	600,000 **	230,000/425,000 *
PUERTO AZUL A/B*	140,000	150,000/Please call *
RIVIERA A/B*	-	230,000/400,000 *
ROCKWELL CLUB	-	500,000
ROYALE TAGAYTAY A/B*/C**	100,000	120,000/150,000*/180,000 **
SHERWOOD HILLS A/B*/C**	-	250,000/350,000*/450,000 **
STA. ELENA GOLF CLUB A	-	1,650,000
SUBIC BAY IND/CORP.*	-	300,000/450,000 *
TAT FILIPINAS GOLF A/B*	-	350,000/550,000 *
TAGAYTAY HIGHLANDS CC/GOLF*	800,000 *	375,000/850,000 *
TAGAYTAY MIDLANDS	-	750,000
VALLE VERDE IND.	170,000	185,000
WACK WACK	-	6.8M

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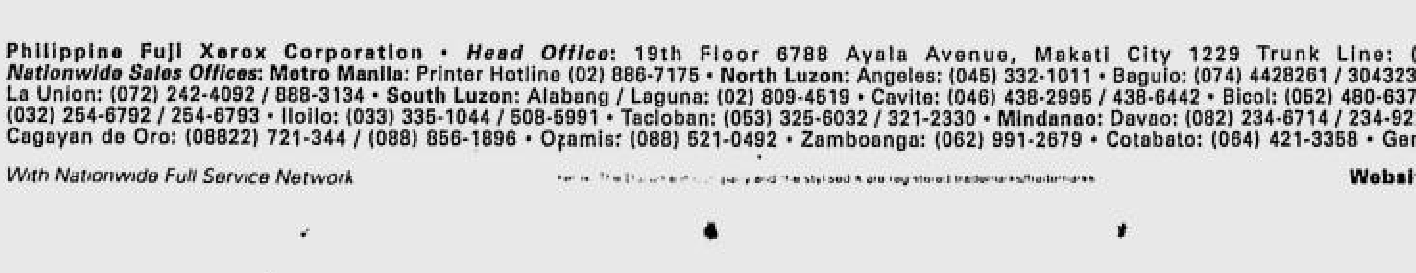

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Rule of low

BREAKTIME

Conrado R. Banal III

I BET you don't know, even if you care enough to want to know, the number of lawyers in the government. Let's just say they make up an entire industry.

Just think there are five major offices, which do legal work for the national government alone. I am sure they are all packed with lawyers from the toilet to the lobby.

They are the Department of Justice, the Ombudsman, the Solicitor General, the Government Corporate Counsel and, finally, the Presidential Legal Counsel.

Now each of those major legal offices has their own distinct function. No overlap! Or else they will just be wasting taxes, which are actually your money.

And that's how the government justifies all those offices. It's as if closing down just one of them will bring about a nationwide night-long blackout for justice. Oops.

* * *

NOW recent reports said that the Office of the Government Corporate Counsel filed graft charges against top officers of the SSS. I wonder if that's the job of the OGCC.

The last time I checked, the OGCC supposedly was still the "principal law office of all government-owned or controlled corporations." Surely, the SSS is one of them.

In the graft case, therefore, it is clear that the client of the OGCC was not the SSS. It actually represented some private individuals who, in effect, were suing the SSS itself.

They described themselves as "taxpayers, officers and members of the SSS." They were actually the "pets" of former SSS chair and president Vitaliano Nañagas.

So there you have it. The OGCC is the "law office" for government corporations like the SSS. They are its clients. Thus the OGCC is suing its own client. What a country!

* * *

HERE we boast that the rule of law is king. There must be a rule somewhere saying it's at least ethically low for lawyers to sue their own client. What's that—rule of low?

Anyway, headed by Amado Valdez, the OGCC actually filed the charges against officers of the SSS, including its former chair and president Carlos "Chuckie" Arellano.

The case had something to do with the SSS purchase of PCI Bank shares during the time of the man named Band . . . Wrist Band. In short, it was just right to file the case!

The Nañagas group in the SSS, those "taxpayers, officers, and members of SSS," claimed an "overpricing" in the purchase, which turned out to be the "premium."

Moreover, the SSS bought the "overpriced" shares together with the GSIS. If the OGCC was just concerned about the deal, why did it spare the GSIS?

* * *

IT seems to me there was something else in the case. Internal SSS politics could be it. The OGCC thus allowed itself to be used in the maneuverings.

You see, the OGCC is not only filing charges in connection with the SSS purchase of PCI Bank shares, but also other purchases of the fund in the stock market.

I heard the OGCC is preparing more cases against the same top officers of the SSS who have something to do with its investments in the stock market.

One of them is the investment in DMCI Holdings. This is a 40-year-old group. It is the biggest high-rise construction company in the country. What's wrong with it?

Well, word from within the OGCC has it the SSS swapped its shares in DMCI with real estate. The swap led to paper loss. Investment loss is now a crime.

* * *

ANYWAY, by itself, DMCI was not a bad company. At the time the SSS bought its stocks in the market, the company was in the list of "desirables" for SSS investments.

But why should the SSS invest in stocks? Well, why not? All pension funds all over the world invest in stocks. Even the World Bank wants the SSS to do so.

Unfortunately, the market price of DMCI collapsed, leaving the SSS with paper losses of hundred of millions of pesos. That's when the SSS board went for the swap.

In the process the paper loss was reduced by some P145 million. You see, the shares were doing at 35 centavos per at that time. DMCI was offering a premium.

The company offered to price the shares at more than P1 each, a 200-percent premium, paying for them with prime properties. How come I don't get the same deal?

* * *

DURING the time of Chuckie Arellano, it's true, the SSS became most active in the stock market. Thus some groups are now blaming him for the paper loss of the SSS.

Well, in the stock market, hindsight always has a perfect vision. For when Chuckie left, the paper loss of the SSS amounted to some P4.5 billion.

That means, if the SSS were to unload all its stocks, it would lose P4.5 billion of its original investments, based on the acquisition price of its holdings.

But why would the SSS all of a sudden sell all its holdings? Not in a down market, it shouldn't. That's why it's called only a "paper" loss.

It's not yet a loss, in other words, and only the "clients" of the OGCC want to make it appear as the end of the world for the fund.

* * *

STILL, in the previous two years of Chuckie's time, the SSS made "actual"—and not just "paper"—profits of more than P30 billion in the stock market.

Even if we consider the "paper" loss of P4.5 billion at the end of his stint as "actual" loss, he would still have made P25 billion for the fund.

And what about his successors? The stock market continued to go down even after Chuckie left the fund. What did the SSS do about the "paper" loss.

By the time Nañagas left, SSS posted "paper" loss of about P16 billion. Meaning, if he sold all the SSS holdings, he would have prevented that big a "paper" loss.

Now under SSS chair and president Cora dela Paz, the fund is carrying "paper" loss of about P27 billion. And did she ever bother with the stock market?

Maybe Nañagas hated the stock market. It is understandable. Well, he was fired by the Philippine Stock Exchange.

As for Dela Paz, she even has likings for certain stocks, which are, ahh, um, "endorsed" by Malacañang. All it took was a single phone call, and she bought the stocks by the hundreds of millions of pesos.

Brunei-based firm awaits study on viability of pipeline project

By Ronnel W. Domingo

KUALA LUMPUR—Brunei-based Mashhor Group of Companies is expected to decide early next year on whether or not to take part in the $80-million Batangas-Manila onshore gas pipeline project, the conglomerate's chief said yesterday.

"We are going to have the final decision (on this) by the first quarter of next year when we have received some vital information that we need," Mashhor Group chair Malai Haji Abdul Hamid said in an interview.

Malai said Mashhor Group, which is one of the exhibitors here in the 7th Asean Council on Petroleum Conference and Exhibition, was awaiting the results of a study being conducted regarding the project's viability.

Industry sources said the pipeline would cost between $80 million and $100 million to put up.

"We would want to take part in this once we are convinced of its viability," said Malai, who visited the Philippines last week along with a team of industry experts.

State-firm PNOC Exploration Corp., with the help of the Japan External Trade Organization, is doing a feasibility study on the pipeline that would bring the Malampaya gas from the gas terminal in Batangas to Metro Manila.

Mike Alford, a director of Mashhor Group, explained that if the group decided to take on the project, it would do so through Mashor Clough Sbn Bhd, a joint venture with an Australian firm.

Alford said Mashhor Clough has completed two similar pipe-laying projects in Brunei.

He said he did not know whether Mashhor Group would do the project with other interested investors.

Last month, Energy Secretary Vicente Perez Jr. said a joint venture among the many firms interested in the 100-kilometer pipeline was possible to accommodate all interested parties in the project.

"The decision on who will develop the project rests on the Department of Energy, but there would be no bidding. This would likely be a joint venture," Perez said in an interview.

The government would have to sit down with all the players to see what their interests are, the secretary added.

Perez said interested firms included British, Japanese, Malaysian and local players.

"What is important is that the pipeline cannot be built until there is a major demand in Manila," he pointed out.

He explained that industries located along the pipeline's path represented too little demand to justify the development of the pipeline project.

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Celebrity	100,000
Club Filipino	200,000
Eagle Ridge A/B	350,000/400,000
Evercrest	90,000
Fontana A/B/C/D	Please call
Forest Hill A/B/C	730/730,000
Manila Golf (Indv)	12,000,000
Manila Golf (Corp)	14,000,000
Manila Polo	2,700,000
Manila Southwoods "A"/"B"	700,000/800,000
Mt. Malarayat "A"	350,000
Mt. Malarayat Corp	600,000
Orchard A/B/C	200/250/350
Quezon City Sports	200,000
Riviera "A"	Please call
Royale Tagaytay/Rockwell Club	80,000
Sta. Elena A	1,500,000
Tagaytay Highland Club	370,000
Tagaytay Highland Golf	760,000
Tagaytay Midlands	Please call
Valle Verde CC	175,000
Valle Verde CC "C"	320,000
Wack Wack	6,500,000

SELLING	
Alabang A/B	1,400,000/1,600,000
Baguio Country Club	730,000
Camp John Hay Golf	280,000
Canlubang Golf	650,000
Canyon Woods	260,000
Capitol Hills	120,000
Celebrity	Please call
Club Filipino	230,000
Eagle Ridge A/B	380/400/500
Eastridge/Evercrest/Luisita	Please call
Fontana A B C D	Please call/50,000
Forest Hills A/B/C	230/250/350
Manila Golf (Indv & Corp)	Please call
Manila Polo	2,700,000
Manila Southwoods "A"/"B"	700,000/725,000
Makati Sports/Metro/Mimosa	Please call
Mt. Malarayat "A"	350,000
Mt. Malarayat (Corp)	650,000
Orchard A/B/C	230/250/150
Puerto Azul	140,000
Quezon City Sports	230,000
Riviera "A"/"B"/"C"	200/250/400
Royale Tagaytay/Rockwell Club	50/400,000
Sta. Elena A	1,620,000
Sherwood	100,000
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Tagaytay Highland Golf	800,000
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*2. ALABANG COUNTRY CLUB "B"	1,500,000	
3. BAGUIO COUNTRY CLUB	725,000	700,000
4. CALATAGAN GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB "A"	100,000	
5. CAMP JOHN HAY	320,000	
6. CANLUBANG GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB	700,000	
7. CAPITOL HILLS GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB	125,000	115,000
8. CELEBRITY CLUB	210,000	
9. COUNTRY CLUB AT TAGAYTAY HIGHLANDS	380,000	
10. CLUB FILIPINO	250,000	210,000
11. EASTRIDGE GOLF CLUB "A"	220,000	
12. EAGLERIDGE GOLF CLUB "A"	375,000	340,000
13. EVERCREST GOLF CLUB "A"	100,000	
14. FOREST HILLS GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB "A"	230,000	210,000
15. FOREST HILLS GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB "B"	280,000	
16. FOREST HILLS GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB "C"	500,000	
17. MAKATI SPORTS CLUB "A"		300,000
18. MAKATI SPORTS CLUB "B"	400,000	
*19. MANILA GOLF CLUB (CORP.)	15,000,000	
*20. MANILA POLO CLUB	3,000,000	2,700,000
21. MANILA SOUTHWOODS GOLF CLUB "A"	700,000	
22. MANILA SOUTHWOODS GOLF CLUB "B"	750,000	
23. METROPOLITAN CLUB "A"	140,000	
24. METROPOLITAN CLUB "B"	150,000	
25. MT. MALARAYAT GOLF CLUB (IND.)	350,000	
26. ORCHARD GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB "A"	250,000	
27. ORCHARD GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB "B"	400,000	
28. ORCHARD GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB "C"	550,000	
29. QUEZON CITY SPORTS CLUB	230,000	200,000
30. RIVIERA GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB "A"	220,000	190,000
31. RIVIERA GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB "B"	350,000	
*32. STA. ELENA GOLF CLUB "A"	1,800,000	1,650,000
33. SUBIC BAY YACHT CLUB (IND)	300,000	
34. TAGAYTAY HIGHLANDS INT'L. GOLF CLUB	800,000	
35. TAGAYTAY MIDLAND	750,000	
36. VALLE VERDE COUNTRY CLUB	195,000	175,000
37. VALLEY GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB	250,000	
*38. WACK WACK GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB	7,500,000	

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Inflation hits 12-month . . .

(From page B1)

He noted that the government was now in a dilemma on whether to prioritize propping up the economy through lower interest rates or providing stability to the exchange rate.

"It's a question of what will bring about more good to the country, and I think a low-interest-rate regime will," Avante said.

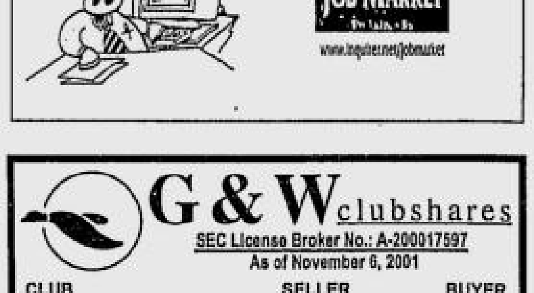
Avante also said the recent four-percentage hike in the liquidity reserves sanctioned by the BSP had stepped up the actual costs of money, even if the effect appeared to be minimal in arithmetic terms.

"Some of the banks had to borrow money to meet the requirement and this created pressure on 30-day borrowing rate beyond what is supposed to be a normal level. Hopefully, a 50-basis point cut in the BSP's overnight rates will be able to soften the impact and redound to lower borrowing costs," Avante said.

The BSP slashed its overnight borrowing and lending rate for the first time in four months in September by 25 basis points to 8.75 and 11 percent, respectively. But the BSP has not been able to match the reductions sanctioned by the US Federal Reserve due to concerns that any additional liquidity might exert pressure not just on inflation but on the peso-dollar exchange rate.

But Abacus Securities economist Emilio Neri Jr. said he was not optimistic that the favorable inflation numbers would result in lower domestic interest rates.

"I don't think the BSP will capitalize on this because its top concern is still the stability of the peso. It will likely still favor stability over economic growth through lower interest rates," Neri said.



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Baguio Country Club	720,000	-
Camp John Hay	350,000	250,000
Capitol Hills Golf & CC	130,000	120,000
Canyon Woods	350,000	-
Canlubang	700,000	-
Celebrity Sports	200,000	-
Eagleridge "A"	350,000	330,000
Eastridge	220,000	-
Fontana "D/C"	90,000/140,000	Pls. Call
Manila Polo	2,800,000	-
Manila Golf "C"	17,000,000	-
Manila Southwoods "A"	720,000	650,000
Manila Southwoods "B"	700,000	-
Orchard	230,000	100,000
Phil. Columbian	90,000	60,000
Puerto Azul	170,000	-
Quezon City Sports Club	240,000	220,000
Riviera Golf	220,000	200,000
Rockwell	500,000	-
Royale Tagaytay	100,000	80,000
Sherwoods	120,000	-
Tagaytay Country Club	380,000	-
Tagaytay Highlands Golf & CC	820,000	-
Tagaytay Midlands	750,000	-
Valle Verde (Indv.)	190,000	170,000
Valley Golf	240,000	-
Wack-Wack Golf	6,700,000	6,300,000

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DISCLOSURES

CENTRAL Azucarera Don Pedro bought 300,000 of its shares at P0.80 per share.

* * *

GUOCO Holdings Inc. set its annual stockholders' meeting for Dec. 14 with record date on Nov. 16.

* * *

CHINATRUST Commercial Bank amended Article 5 of its by-laws concerning the executive committee and audit committee.

* * *

SHELL Philippines Exploration B.V. drilled additional 774 meters since last Wednesday in the well in offshore Palawan for its Malampaya project. ***Compiled by Maricar D. Tolosa, PDI Research***

Philippine Stock Exchange

(As of Monday, November 5, 2001)

STOCKS	OPEN	HIGH	LOW	CLOSE	VOLUME
BANKS & FINANCIAL SERVICES					
BANKS					
Bank of the Phil. Islands	41	42	41	41	1,097,100
Equitable PCI Bank Inc.	18	18.75	18	18.75	24,100
Metropolitan Bank & Trust	165	166	164	165	193,610
Philippine National Bank	47	48	47	47.5	213,300
Phil. Savings Bank	29	29	29	29	1,000
Security Bank Corp.	18	18	18	18	25,000
FINANCIAL SERVICE					
Manulife Financial Corp.	1285	1325	1285	1325	4,330
Sun Life Financial Serv.	1075	1090	1075	1090	3,140
COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL					
COMMUNICATION					
ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corp.	25.5	25.5	25.5	25.5	3,700
Globe Telecom Inc.	530	545	530	545	90,260
Manila Bulletin Pub. Corp.	3	3	3	3	1,000
Piltel	0.31	0.31	0.31	0.31	50,000
Phil. Long Dis Tel Co.	375	375	365	367.5	264,530
Philweb.Com Inc.	0.014	0.014	0.013	0.014	11,000,000
POWER & ENERGY					
Manila Electric Co. A	22	22	22	22	7,300
Manila Electric Co. B	32.5	32.5	32	32	832,800
Petron Corp.	1.04	1.04	1.02	1.02	9,120,000
Trans-Asia Oil and Energy	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	100,000
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES					
Int'l Container Term'l Sv	1.32	1.32	1.32	1.32	48,000
CONSTRUCTION & OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS					
Republic Glass Hldg. Corp.	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	4,000
Union Cement Corp.	1.12	1.12	1.12	1.12	81,000
FOOD, BEVERAGES & TOBACCO					
Alaska Milk Corp.	2.1	2.1	2.1	2.1	10,000
Cosmos Bottling Corp.	5.9	5.9	5.8	5.9	1,643,000
Jollibee Foods Corp.	11	11	11	11	34,200
La Tondeña Distillers Inc.	23.75	23.75	23.5	23.75	44,900
RFM Corp.	2.04	2.06	2.02	2.02	2,048,000
San Miguel Corp. A	39.5	41	39.5	41	122,100
San Miguel Corp. B	45.5	48.5	45.5	48	349,100
HOLDING FIRMS					
Ayala Corp.	4.4	4.4	4.3	4.35	11,343,000
Aboitiz Equity Ventures	1.3	1.3	1.3	1.3	50,000
APC Group Inc.	0.065	0.065	0.065	0.065	800,000
Alcorn Gold Res. Corp.	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055	0.0055	14,000,000
Balabac Resources & Hldgs.	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.12	200,000
Benpres Holdings Corp.	0.59	0.59	0.56	0.56	1,550,000
DMCI Holdings Inc.	0.13	0.13	0.13	0.13	900,000
Ebecom Holdings Inc.	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	400,000
First Phil Hldgs Corp.	22.25	22.25	22.25	22.25	117,800
Global Equities Inc.	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	1,700,000
House of Investments Inc.	0.45	0.45	0.45	0.45	20,000
J.G. Summit Holdings Inc.	1.18	1.18	1.16	1.16	118,000
Megaworld Corp.	0.56	0.58	0.56	0.58	610,000
Metro Pacific Corp.	0.2	0.2	0.19	0.19	700,000
MANUFACTURING, DISTRIBUTION & TRADING					
Picop Resources Inc.	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.075	100,000
Central Azucar Don Pedro	0.8	0.8	0.8	0.8	190,000
SPI Technologies Inc.	9.7	9.7	9.7	9.7	10,000
HOTEL, RECREATION & OTHER SERVICE					
Belle Corp.	0.29	0.29	0.29	0.29	300,000
Fairmont Holdings Inc.	0.43	0.43	0.43	0.43	6,070,000
Premiere Ent. Prod. Inc.	0.14	0.14	0.14	0.14	500,000
BONDS, PREFERRED & WARRANTS					
ABS-CBN Hldgs. Corp. (Pdr)	26	26	26	26	340,000
Cosmos Bottling Corp.-Pref	11	11	11	11	11,300
Globe Tel. A-Warrants	400	400	400	400	81,040
Globe Telecom Hldg. (Pdr)	525	525	520	520	10,500
Jollibee Warrants	10.5	10.5	10.5	10.5	8,200
Omico Corp. Warrant	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001	11,000,000
PLDT (10% Pref) Series W	10	10	10	10	1,000
PLDT (10% Pref) Series Z	10	10	10	10	2,000
Philweb.Com Inc.-Warrants	0.0042	0.0042	0.004	0.004	5,000,000
PROPERTY					
Ayala Land Inc.	4.4	4.4	4.35	4.4	15,311,000
Cyber Bay Corp.	0.24	0.25	0.235	0.25	1,140,000
Empire East Land Inc.	0.195	0.195	0.195	0.195	520,000
Filinvest Land Inc.	1.12	1.12	1.12	1.12	1,833,000
City & Land Developers	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2	50,000
SM Development Corp.	0.82	0.82	0.82	0.82	80,000
SM Prime Holdings Inc.	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	8,998,000
MINING					
Itogon-Suyoc Mines A	0.019	0.019	0.019	0.019	3,700,000
OIL					
Imperial Res.	0.012	0.013	0.012	0.013	1,000,000
Interport Res.	0.003	0.003	0.003	0.003	5,000,000
Oriental Pet. & Min. B	0.0026	0.0026	0.0026	0.0026	47,000,000
South China Resources Inc.	0.25	0.25	0.25	0.25	140,000

	SHARES	VALUE (P)
Banks & Fin Svc	1,561,580	97,194,270.00
Comm'l & Ind'l	81,986,730	323,894,275.00
PRO	27,932,000	119,411,010.00
Mining	3,700,000	70,300.00
OIL	53,140,000	185,000.00
GRAND TOTALS:	168,320,310	540,754,855.00

AVERAGES		
Banks & Fin Svc	390.18	UP 2.62
Comm'l & Ind'l	1,418.39	UP 8.94
PRO	435.47	DOWN 3.80
Mining	993.46	DOWN 4.66
OIL	1.26	DOWN 0.02
All Shares Index	657.61	UP 14.60
Composite	997.50	UP 4.15

NO. OF ADVANCES: 15; NO. OF DECLINES: 21; NO. OF UNCHANGED: 33; NO. OF TRADED ISSUES: 69; NO. OF TRADES: 1,493

CURRENCIES

Oct-05-2001

Country	Unit	Euro Equivalent	Foreign currency in US$	Foreign currency in Peso
United States	Dollar	1.107788	1.000000	51.9560
Japan	Yen	0.009113	0.008226	0.4274
United Kingdom	Pound	1.620250	1.462600	75.9908
Hong Kong	Dollar	0.142207	0.128370	6.6696
Switzerland	Franc	0.679457	0.613346	31.8670
Canada	Dollar	0.696240	0.628496	32.6541
Singapore	Dollar	0.607639	0.548516	28.4987
Australia	Dollar	0.562044	0.507357	26.3602
Bahrain	Dinar	2.938585	2.652661	137.8217
Kuwait	Dinar	N/A	N/A	N/A
Saudi Arabia	Rial	0.295410	0.266667	13.8550
Brunei	Dollar	0.605811	0.546866	28.4130
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.000104	0.000094	0.0049
Thailand	Baht	0.024777	0.022366	1.1620
UAE	Dirham	0.301685	0.272331	14.1492
Korea	Won	0.000862	0.000778	0.0404
Euro	Euro	1.000000	0.902700	46.9007
Germany	Mark	0.511292	0.461543	23.9799
France	Franc	0.152450	0.137616	7.1500
Netherlands	Guilder	0.453780	0.409627	21.2826
Austria	Schilling	0.072673	0.065602	3.4084
Belgium	Franc	0.024789	0.022377	1.1626
Italy	Lire	0.000516	0.000466	0.0242
Finland	Markka	0.168186	0.151823	7.8881
Portugal	Escudo	0.004988	0.004503	0.2340
Spain	Peseta	0.006010	0.005425	0.2819
Luxemburg	Franc	0.024789	0.022377	1.1626
Ireland	Punt	1.269739	1.146193	59.5516

Treasury rejects all T-bill bids anew

(From page B1)

able, the yields on the treasuries across all tenors were kept at their two-week level, the fourth time this year that the auction committee had rejected all bids, even as traders warned that the government's continued rejection would simply distort the market.

A trader from a local bank pointed out that the yield of the 91-day treasuries in the secondary market was already past 11 percent.

He explained that because of the government's insistence on keeping the rates steady, particularly the benchmark at below double-digit levels, investors were flocking to the secondary market where they expect to get a more realistic rate.

But Edeza noted that it was the traders that had not been realistic.

"These traders seem to be living in their own world and what they have in mind is not what we are seeing," the treasurer said.

The fixed-income market continued to doubt that the government could contain its budget deficit within P145 billion despite the announcement that Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp. would float P15 billion in bonds to help plug the budget gap.

Traders said the market was still convinced that the government would continue to borrow more money later to finance its swelling deficit problem.

Finance Secretary Jose Isidro Camacho was also expecting treasury bill rates to go down, citing a much lower inflation rate for October a very liquid market.

"There is a lot of liquidity in the market. In fact, the BSP is holding some P100 billion in deposits from the banking system that is over and above the mandated reserves," he said.

Edeza stressed that the government would keep on rejecting the unreasonable offers from the banks until they get the message clearly. "There is no reason for the rates to move up."

Thus, the yields were maintained at the level two weeks ago of 9.918 percent for the 91-day, 12.179 percent for the 182-day, and 13.062 percent for the 364-day treasuries.

Business groups ask gov't to review tax reform agenda

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

MAJOR Philippine business groups led by the Makati Business Club are urging the Department of Finance to review the government's tax reform agenda—specifically its ongoing voluntary assessment program and the planned gross income taxation—to make it more compelling to taxpayers and beneficial to the government.

The MBC-led Taxation Reform Task Force said the VAP might not be attractive to taxpayers who had already complied with the current tax laws and made substantial payments.

The VAP, started by the Bureau of Internal Revenue in August until Dec. 15 this year, is meant to grant amnesty to tax dodgers through partial payment of their unpaid taxes.

The VAP is expected to generate P3 billion in additional revenues to the government.

The task force urged the finance department to simply withhold penalties on taxpayers who opted to pay their penalties but they should not be accorded last priority in BIR audits and probes and clarify the computation of back taxes for those that had yet to file their tax returns.

The task force also suggested that the government extend the VAP for a longer period to give taxpayers more time to study this amnesty program, prepare required forms and raise necessary funds.

On gross income taxation, the task force claimed that the proposed shift from the 32-percent corporate net income tax was not "very timely," considering the current state of the economy.

The task Force said that instead of shoring up government coffers, the gross income tax could even further erode the government's shrinking tax collections.

Instead of a radical shift in taxation, the task force is asking the government to consider other alternatives that will not have a negative impact on both businesses and wage earners.

These alternatives include the further expansion of the withholding tax system, prosecution and conviction of big tax evaders, accreditation of tax agents, drawing up of measures to establish revenues or taxpayers, issuance of rules and regulations on the 1997 Tax Reform Act and mandatory indication of addressee on checks.

The task force also wants Congress to enact bills that will rationalize incentives, utilize financial statements as a basis for loans, and indexation of specific rates.

Among the key members of the task force are Florecita Flores of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce, Benjamin Chua of the Federation of Filipino Chinese Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Dante Go of the Chinese Filipino Business Club, Guillermo Luz of MBC, Raul Concepcion of FPI, former Prime Minister and Finance Minister Cesar Virata, former Finance Secretary Ramon del Rosario Jr., former Central Bank Governor Jose Cuisia Jr., former Finance Undersecretary Romeo Bernardo, former Finance Undersecretary Milwida Guevara and former BIR Commissioner Liwayway Vinzons Chato.

Sky, Home risk losing provincial operators

By Abigail L. Ho

AS IF dealing with the loss of a "substantial" number of subscribers are not enough, Sky Vision Corp. and Philippine Home Cable Holdings Corp. are also now dealing with provincial cable TV operators who are being turned off by the two cable leaders' mounting debts.

"The provincial systems don't want to negotiate with them because they are losing money," a person familiar with the issue told the INQUIRER.

He said cable TV operators in the provinces were afraid they would also lose money should they link up their facilities with those of Sky and Home.

But Sky managing director Carlos Tria Jr. denied this was the sentiment among provincial cable TV operators.

"They're also losing money. When it comes to the bottom line, both (Manila and provincial) are losing. Very few operators are making money now industry-wide," Tria said.

He added that provincial cable TV operators might be earning on paper, but the reality was that they were also operating on net losses.

"For the provincial operators, they don't recognize all their costs. For example, they could be using their personal properties for their operations, so they don't have to pay rent. The owners and their relatives could also be the ones managing the business, so there's not much need for high wages, if any," he explained.

An industry observer said provincial cable TV operators would rather conduct separate negotiations with program providers as they did not need all the channels that Sky and Home had.

"They're not obligated to carry all channels, so they would rather negotiate separately," he said.

Tria admitted this but reasoned that some provincial operators still negotiated with them for some channels that they wanted to carry in the provinces.

Having a wide subscriber base gave cable TV operators more leverage in negotiating with program providers for lower rates. The wider the subscriber base, the better the chances that they could get discounts from program providers.

Sky and Home said earlier that they were prepared to lose a "substantial" number of subscribers after its talks with the Star TV collapsed. Star provides popular channels like ESPN, Star Sports, Star Movies and National Geographic. The loss of these channels have forced a number of Sky and Home subscribers to switch to other cable TV operators.

'Power' author shares ideas with local leaders

LEE

BUSINESS worldwide seems to be floating among the flotsam arising from the earthshaking events of Sept. 11. In this sea of uncertainty and fear, a sense of powerlessness is seeping through the corporate woodwork. How can one stop this depressing mist engulfing the workplace?

Blaine Lee, founding vice president of the Covey Leadership Center and author of the book "The Power Principle: Influence with Honor," will share with Philippine leaders how one can shift from being "powerless" to being "powerful."

He is here from Nov. 5 to 9 to run a series of presentations organized by the Center for Leadership and Change Inc., the Philippine distributor of Franklin Covey products and services.

In an interview *(the full text will appear in the People at Work subsection on Wednesday)*, Lee names the three approaches to power: coercive, utility and principle-centered.

Of the three, he says that the most effective is principle-centered power. The principles he is referring to are his "10 Principles of Power," namely, persuasion, patience, gentleness, teachability, unconditional acceptance, kindness, knowledge, discipline, consistency and integrity.

Lee says that to be empowered, one must upgrade one's knowledge and skills and add value to one's job. He points out that one does not need anyone's permission to be powerful or to have control over one's fate.

On the other hand, Lee says that people who use coercive power may eventually realize that they need to change and move toward principle-centered power.

His one-day workshop on "The Power Principle" runs today starting 8 a.m. at the Dusit Hotel Ballroom.

Jupiter named 'IT hero'

JUPITER Systems Inc., a member of the iVantage group, has been chosen by International Data Corp., one of the world's largest and most credible information technology research organizations, as a "local software hero."

The evaluation was done from IDC's regional base in Malaysia.

"Local heroes" were chosen on the basis of their track record, technical expertise, product standards, methodologies, market share and international growth potential. Those named as "local heroes" are companies with significant locally packaged products. Around 80 percent of their revenues are derived from their home countries.

Jupiter Systems was cited for its stability and growth despite the challenging local business environment. The Filipino software firm also leads the numbers in the Philippines in terms of locally built solutions for enterprise resource planning systems.

Visa Securities gets 6 months to hike capital

By Elena R. Torrijos

THE SECURITIES and Exchange Commission has given the group of businessman Paul Wee, who is taking over Visa Securities Corp., six months to comply with its P100-million capital requirement for new brokers.

SEC chair Lilia Bautista said the commission approved Wee's acquisition of the Philippine Stock Exchange seat of Visa Securities on the condition that he put up P50 million up front and pay the balance in six months or before his company would start its operations.

Wee, who will rename Visa Securities to All Suerte Securities, also acquired Visa Securities' shares in the stock exchange.

Another group was also keen on buying the seat and shares of another PSE member, Bautista disclosed.

The SEC is urging the PSE to offer its shares to institutional investors. The local bourse, however, wants to wait for a valuation of its assets in the Bonifacio Global City.

The entry of new players has come as a surprise following the recent withdrawal of foreign stockbrokerages.

Guoco Securities Philippines Inc. recently informed the PSE that it was shutting down its operations effective Nov. 29. Guoco Securities pulled out of the country because very little money was moving around the equities market, making it difficult for the country's 11th-biggest foreign stockbrokerage to earn enough to sustain its operations.

The country's stock market has become the worst-performing in the world. Since the start of the year, the main-share PSE composite index has fallen by 31.3 percent, while total trading volume for all issues has shrunk by about 77 percent.

Non-Opec told to help check falling oil prices

By Ronnel W. Domingo

KUALA LUMPUR—The head of the Organization of Petroleum-Exporting Countries yesterday called for the cooperation of non-member oil producers to check the continuing slide of world crude prices.

"We need the cooperation of the other oil-exporting countries. We might need to reduce productions again to balance the supply and demand situation," Opec secretary general Ali Rodriguez said in a news briefing.

Rodriguez, who addressed the 7th Asean Council on Petroleum being held here, said everyone "should look at the production levels at the moment" and look for ways to stabilize prices.

He said current average crude prices ranged from $20 to $24 a barrel, and he expected this to get better next year.

Rodriguez, Venezuela's oil minister, said the group considered "sufficient" a price level of between $31 and $32 a barrel, which he said was the price level in the '70s.

Rodriguez also said (people) should not focus on Opec having the lion's share of the market. "It is not an issue of market share, it is the price that matters," he said.

He further warned that investments would be severely affected if crude prices declined further.

He noted that the price of oil was directly related to the performance of the world economy and stable prices were necessary for continued investments.

Petroliam Nasional Bhd. chair Azizan Zainul Abidin, meanwhile, told the Ascope forum that a further weakening of oil demand was expected considering the current slowdown of the world economy.

Local fuel prices seen falling again next month

By Christine A. Gaylican

DOMESTIC petroleum prices are expected to continue falling next month on weak world crude prices.

Energy Secretary Vincent Perez said consumers might even enjoy lower fuel prices by the end of the month should the current trend in the world oil market continue.

Perez reported that as of Nov. 2, the prices of Dubai crude, the country's benchmark, averaged $18.13 a barrel, down by $1.50 from the October average of $19.63 a barrel.

In September, Dubai crude prices stood at $24.12 a barrel.

Consumer and Oil Price Watch chair Raul Concepcion said earlier he expected local fuel to go down by an average P1.[illegible] a liter this month.

The November reduction is likely, as the prices of crude in the world market have stabilized to a record low of $20 a barrel, Concepcion said.

Local oil firms led by industry giants Petron Corp., Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corp. and Caltex Philippines Inc. have slashed their prices seven times this year on weak crude prices abroad. On average, their prices have gone down by 21 to 35 centavos per liter.

On Oct. 25, Petron led an earlier-than-expected round of petroleum price rollbacks, slashing the cost of its gasoline by 30 centavos a liter and of diesel and kerosene by 20 centavos a liter.

On Oct. 11, oil companies slashed prices by between 21 and 35 centavos a liter, citing improved market conditions between August and September.

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Corporations meet to find ways to be better corporate citizens

SEATTLE—Representatives from some of the largest multinational corporations in the world will gather this week in Seattle to discuss several issues confronting their business, including globalization, environmental policy and labor practices.

But this time, the gathering isn't expected to erupt into the tumult of the "Battle of Seattle," when thousands of protesters converged on the city to violently protest the World Trade Organization.

At the Business for Social Responsibility conference, Microsoft, Ford, Weyerhaeuser and Starbucks will be talking about how they can be better corporate citizens.

Among the topics to be addressed at the three-day conference: socially responsible downsizing, improving human rights in third-world countries and making corporate social responsibility strategies pay off on Wall Street.

Bob Dunn, BSR's chief executive, says the group's goal is to "help people get their arms around social responsibility."

These are efforts that many companies didn't think much about a decade ago, said Howard Schultz, Starbucks' chair and the conference's keynote speaker.

"The shift, I believe, is that the consumer has begun, over a period of a number of years, to perform an audit on what a company stands for in terms of its culture, its practices and the way it interacts with the people it serves," Schultz said.

Schultz said Starbucks' own philosophy has long been "a fragile balance" of turning healthy profits while also being socially conscious—a happy medium that Dunn said many who will attend the BSR conference are also trying to find.

A non-profit founded about 10 years ago by companies such as Patagonia, Ben & Jerry's and Stonyfield Farms, BSR has since grown considerably. At this year's annual BSR conference, companies that are typically the target of social activists, such as Nike, Gap and Chevron, are scheduled to listen to speeches that address the agendas of their traditional foes.

But very few of those activists will be on hand for the conference—about 75 percent of the participants represent businesses. An $800 to $1,500 admission fee left some activists feeling excluded, but Dunn defended the pricing.

"We need to put some cap on participation in order to preserve some of the community we want to create," he said.

The company does invite some activists, he said, but aims to build a community of corporations talking among themselves.

"I guess I'd said I'm skeptically optimistic," said Alan Durning, executive director of Northwest Environment Watch and an invited panelist.

Durning said it's better to see large corporations talking about these issues than not, but he's frustrated by the contradictions he sees in many of their stances.

For example, Ford Motor Co. company recently began publishing a self-critical annual report on how it can be more socially and environmentally conscious—but also still manufactures the largest gas-guzzling SUV in the United States. *AP*

Indonesia to 'muddle through,' says W. Bank

JAKARTA—The World Bank said on Monday that it expected Indonesia to "muddle through" its economic woes, adding the most urgent tasks were to ensure fiscal sustainability and improve the climate for private investment.

In a report prepared ahead of an annual donors' meeting this week, the bank said progress on Jakarta's latest pact with the International Monetary Fund, signed in late August and which the bank called feasible and realistic, had been disappointing.

It said President Megawati Sukarnoputri's government had made little movement on structural and governance reforms, renewing financial market nervousness and worrying creditors.

The bank repeated a forecast made last month that Indonesia's economy would grow 3.3 percent this year and 3.5 percent in 2002, slightly lower than the government's budget forecasts. Jakarta expects growth this year of 3.5 percent and 4 percent in 2002.

"The bank places Indonesia squarely in the 'muddle-through' scenario . . . In this scenario, Indonesia maintains a modicum of macroeconomic stability, but implements structural reforms in fits and starts, with some policy reversals," the report said.

"In the absence of decisive policy action, the fiscal position remains marginally sustainable.

"But donors need to be realistic about what is feasible, given strong vested interests, severe institutional weaknesses, the uncertainties arising from decentralization and a turbulent transition to democracy," the report added.

The World Bank first raised the "muddle through" scenario in February at a time of rising political instability, with MPs seeking to bring down former President Abdurrahman Wahid over his erratic rule. Those efforts succeeded in late July, and political tension has largely subsided since Megawati took over.

While the growth forecasts appeared robust compared with that of other Asian countries, the bank said they were too low for Indonesia because recovery had lagged behind its neighbors, and more than half its 210 million people were vulnerable to poverty.

The bank said Jakarta's most immediate priority was to ensure fiscal sustainability for stability and as a foundation for growth. The 2001 fiscal outlook was worrying with a shortfall seen in domestic and foreign financing of the deficit, it said.

Jakarta has forecast a budget deficit of 3.7 percent of gross domestic product for this year, shrinking to 2.5 percent in 2002.

"Moreover, Indonesia's fragile banking and corporate sectors, and the precarious state of the government's finances, make the country highly vulnerable to risks—with immediate implications for fiscal sustainability," said the report. *Reuters*

Jakarta told to defy cement takeover bids

JAKARTA—The World Bank on Monday urged Indonesia to immediately defy provincial government attempts to take over affiliates of state-owned cement producer Semen Gresik, warning the moves were endangering the future of investment.

Jakarta's privatization program has been thrown into further jeopardy since the government postponed a planned sale of its 51-percent stake in Semen Gresik in response to opposition from the parliament and provinces.

The West Sumatran government last week declared it has taken over the company's local subsidiary Semen Padang, and the South Sulawesi administration on Saturday threatened to follow suit with their local subsidiary, Semen Tonasa.

The provinces want the cement affiliates to remain locally owned and demand they be spun off from the mother company before the Semen Gresik stake are sold.

A senior economist with the World Bank in Jakarta, Vikram Nehru, told a press conference here the central government must overrule the takeovers.

"Clearly if this decision is allowed to stand, then it will be a big blow to the privatization program of the government," he said.

"It will lead to tremendous investor wariness and uncertainty about the future possibilities of privatization."

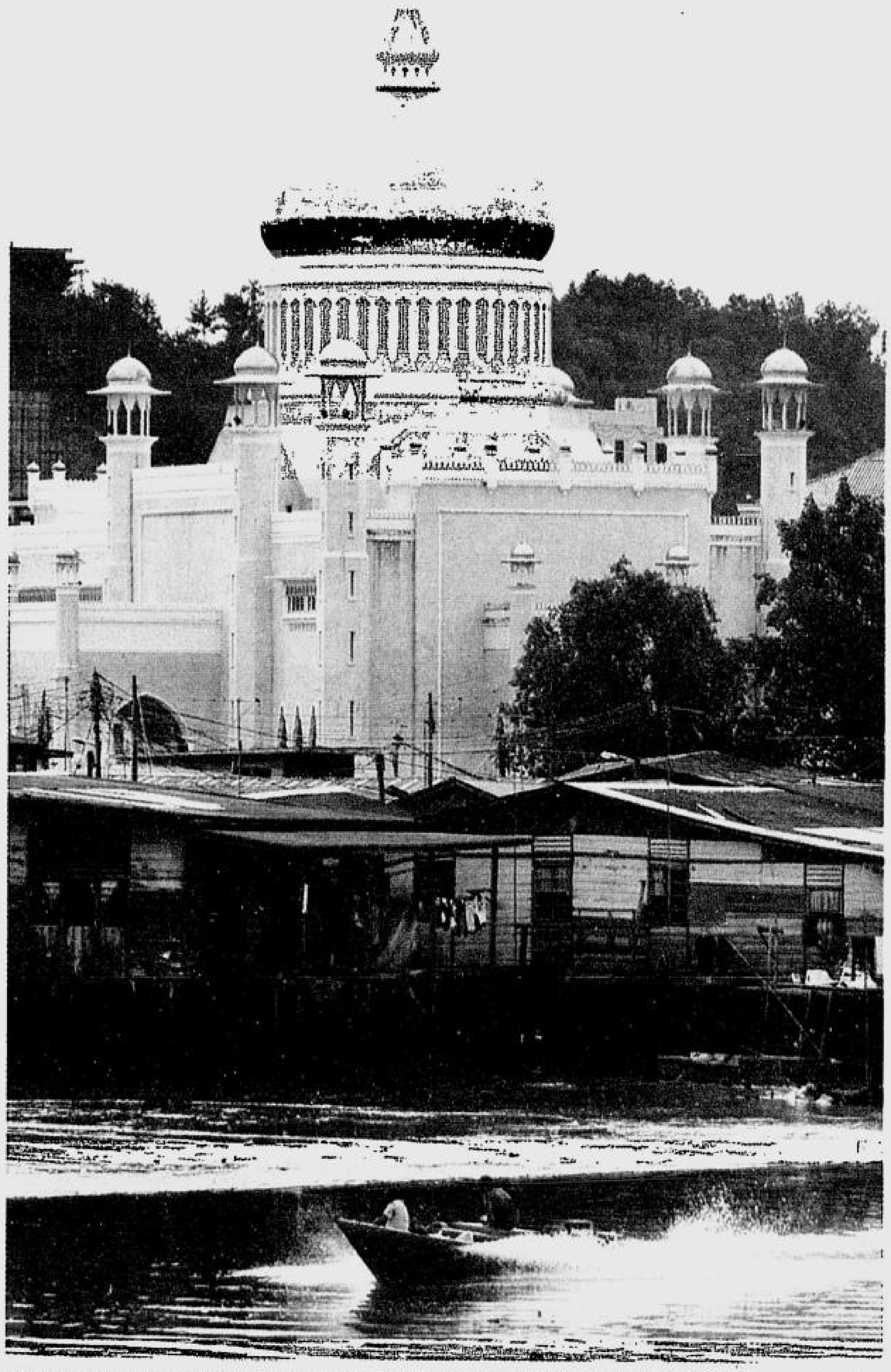
Nehru warned of a dangerous domino effect with which other parts of the country with claims to state enterprises would also try to prevent their sale to foreigners.

"It's terribly important that the government resolve this issue immediately and press ahead with the privatization of Semen Gresik."

State Enterprises Minister Laksamana Sukardi has labeled the unilateral takeover of Semen Padang as illegal but the government has yet to take any firm action against the purported takeover.

Nehru would not speculate on whether the takeover moves would affect the outcome of this week's Consultative Group on Indonesia (CGI) donors' meeting.

The CGI will be asked to commit some $3.5 billion in loans, Nehru said. *AFP*



THE OMAR Ali Saifuddien Mosque towers over the Brunei water village in the center Bandar Seri Begawan. Leaders from Southeast Asia, China, Japan and South Korea are here for their annual summit. The 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations is expected to issue a joint statement condemning the Sept. 11 attacks on the United States.

AP

Toshiba profitability under watch

TOKYO—Global risk evaluator Standard and Poor's placed Japan's electronics giant Toshiba Corp. on creditwatch negative Monday, citing concern over the company's weakening profitability.

The credit rating agency said its decision concerned Toshiba's 'BBB+" long-term and 'A-2' short-term ratings.

"The credit-watch listing reflects increasing concerns over Toshiba's ability to recover its profitability, as well as the company's ability to service its financial commitments at a level commensurate with the current ratings," S and P said in a statement.

Toshiba slashed its full-year earnings forecast last month due to faltering global demand for technology and the impact of the Sept. 11 terror attacks on the United States.

Net loss in the year to March 2002 is seen at 200 billion yen ($1.7 billion) from 115 billion yen forecast prior to the terrorist blitz.

Toshiba's rising net losses would erode the company's capital base, warned the rating agency, adding: "Toshiba's weakened earnings-generating ability is significantly impairing its profitability and cash flow protection."

In the six months to September, Toshiba incurred a group net loss totaling 123.1 billion yen, reversing a net profit of 53.9 billion yen in the same period last year. *AFP*

Web to draw 200M Chinese in four years

BEIJING—China will have an estimated 200 million Internet users by 2005 with most of them hungry for news, a media forum in Beijing has been told, state press reported Monday.

In four years the world's most populous nation will have 40 million computers connected to the Internet, with 200 million people on-line, the Asia-Pacific Symposium on Press and Scientific Progress was told, the China Daily said.

More than 60 percent of the information currently gathered by Internet users in China was news, said Zhang Chunjiang, vice minister of the information industry.

It was likely Internet news media that would probably outstrip television, radio and newspapers in popularity in the country within 10 or 20 years, the forum agreed, according to the newspaper.

However, the Internet explosion was causing increasing problems of people having access to "harmful information," the report said.

The Chinese government blocks access to many foreign websites, particularly news ones, and monitors the content of domestic sites amid fears citizens will have access to a free flow of information.

During last month's Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum summit in Shanghai, firewalls on some international news sites were lifted, only to be reimposed as soon as the meeting of global leaders was over.

China had 26.5 million Internet users by the end of June this year, from just 8.9 million at the end of the 1999. *AFP*

Singapore's DBS to raise capital after profits plunge in Q3

SINGAPORE—Singapore's DBS Group Holdings Ltd. said Monday that it would raise S$2.1 billion dollars ($1.16 billion) in fresh capital after announcing a 40.5-percent drop in net profit in the three months to September.

Southeast Asia's biggest lender said third-quarter net profit, which incorporated for the first time earnings from newly acquired Dao Heng Bank of Hong Kong, fell to S$201 million from S$338 million last year.

"The decline in net profits was largely due to a prudent stance on provisioning for a potential weakening in asset quality and equity valuations brought on by an uncertain economic environment," DBS said in a statement.

Net profit in the nine months to September dropped 20.3 percent to S$830 million from S$1.042 billion due to a six-fold increase in provisions.

DBS said it would sell S$221.8-million ordinary shares at S$9.50 each to raise S$2.1 billion in capital, but ruled out any more share sales for the medium term.

About S$1.15 billion worth of shares were purchased by United States-based Brandes Investment Partners and Capital Group International, while the remainder would be sold globally under an accelerated book-build process that ends Tuesday.

The bank, which was toppled from its domestic leadership with the merger of rivals United Overseas Bank and Overseas Union Bank, also said it was restructuring its balance sheet to free up S$450 million in capital this year.

The restructuring would involve shedding low-yielding and higher-cost deposits in Singapore and Hong Kong, where it acquired Dao Heng Bank in April as part of a regional expansion binge.

"The capital raising and balance sheet right-sizing initiatives will strengthen DBS's capital during uncertain economic times," DBS said. They would "enable the bank to meet the core capital requirements when DBS acquires the remaining 28 percent of Dao Heng Bank in January 2003."

DBS, which lost out to UOB for the acquisition of OUB, said it would focus on integration and consolidation of recent acquisitions and had no plans to seek out other purchases for the near-term.

The harmonization of DBS's operations "continues to proceed smoothly," and "synergies from operations have been both ahead of schedule and greater than expected," DBS said.

Bank loans have fallen as Singapore's economy fell into recession. Gross domestic product is forecast to shrink 3 percent this year from a 9.9-percent growth last year.

Meanwhile, DBS said provisions increased 668 percent from S$38 million to S$292 million "to shield the bank from potential loan delinquencies and weaker equity valuations, especially in the post-Sept. 11 environment."

This offset a 5.9-percent, or S$1.353-billion, growth in operating profits, the bank said.

Provision coverage rose from 49 percent in September last year to 59 percent this September.

It said end-September non-performing loans declined to 6 percent, down from 6.2 percent in June and 7.6 percent last December.

It added that while interest margins slipped marginally, fee and commission income grew 8.5 percent, and other income from treasury operations and share sales were up 163 percent. *AFP*

A REPRODUCTION of Airbus' giant double-decker A380 aircraft. Emirates Air has announced a massive $8.4-billion deal with Airbus Industrie, including orders for 22 A380 aircraft and an option for 10 more.

AFP

Opec may cut output by 1M barrels

KUALA LUMPUR—The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries may cut oil production by a million barrels a day (bpd) to boost prices, its secretary general said Monday.

Opec ministers meeting on Nov. 14 in Vienna would decide whether to slash output by a million bpd or more if prices plunged further, Ali Rodriguez told a press conference on the sidelines of an Association of Southeast Asian Nations oil conference here.

He said the outcome hinged on the cooperation of non-Opec members in cutting output in a bid to boost prices that have slumped to two-year lows since the Sept. 11 terror attacks on the United States.

"We will make some decision in the next conference in Vienna. The first is to ensure full compliance of our commitment (to market stabilization), the second probably is to reduce production again by 1 million barrels a day," he said.

"But it is very important, extremely important (to have) the cooperation of non-Opec producers . . . we need to reduce production again in order to balance the supply with the demand."

Under the present Opec agreement, member nations are producing about 23 million bpd, he said.

Rodriguez described the current oversupply situation in the global oil market as "transitory" and said he believed the outlook would improve next year.

"We have no concerns about the medium-term or long-term but we have to fight the problem in the short-term," he said.

Asked how far oil prices are expected to fall, Rodriguez said: "That's impossible to say, I am not a prophet but I believe that this is directly related to the performance by the economy.

"I am sure that next year's situation will be a little bit better although the demand will be almost the same as this year."

Opec has sought the support of non-Opec producers to cut output to prevent a collapse in crude prices. The 11-member oil cartel has warned of a disaster if non-Opec producers do not coordinate action.

But major non-Opec producers Russia, Norway and Mexico have appeared reluctant to commit themselves to specific action. *AFP*

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NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION OF HAGEMEYER PHILIPPINES, INC.

Notice is hereby given that Hagemeyer Philippines, Inc. will file with the Securities and Exchange Commission an Amended Articles of Incorporation shortening its corporate life to **November 30, 2001** and thereby dissolving said corporation effective upon approval of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Any person who may have a claim against the said corporation may present the same to any of its officers at the office of the corporation at 3rd Floor, OAC Bldg., San Miguel Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City.

This announcement serves as official notice to all parties concerned of the dissolution of the said corporation.

(Sgd.) **MARY ANN BEVERLY P. PARAS**
Vice President and General Manager

(PDI – Oct. 23, 30 & Nov. 6, 2001)

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ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES
MEDICAL CENTER
V Luna Road, Quezon City

INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY AND TO BID

The AFP Medical Center invites bidders to Pre-Qualify and to bid for supply and delivery of Medicines and Medical Supplies for CY 2002.

Pre-bid conference will be held on 9:00 a.m. **15 November 01** at OCO Conference Room, AFPMC, V Luna Road, Quezon City. Failure to attend the Pre-Bid conference on the specified time and date automatically disqualifies any bidder to participate in the bidding.

The AFP Medical Center reserves the right to reject any or all bids without offering any reason, waive any formality, and make an award to the bidder whose bid is most advantageous to the government.

(Sgd.) **EDGARDO D. BERNARDO**
Colonel MC (GSC)
Chairman, BNAC

(PDI – Nov. 5, 6 & 12, 2001)

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AUCTION SALE

MARA Pawnshop Br. of 2202 M. Roxas cor. Pedro Gil St. Sta. Ana Manila AUCTION SALE on Nov. 12, Monday, at 2:30 in the afternoon, respectively June 11-July 12, 2001.
Sons of J. Lanuza, Auctioneer

MARA PAWNSHOP I, II, III, IV and Comembo Br. of Makati City. Auction Sale on Nov. 12, 2001, Mon. at 10:30, 11:30, 1:30, 12:30 and 8:30 in the morning and on the afternoon. Respectively June 11-July 12, 2001.
Sons of J. Lanuza, Auctioneer.

MI MARA Pawnshop of 251 Quirino Ave. Baclaran, Pque M.M. Auction Sale on Nov. 12, 2001, Mon. at 4:00 in the afternoon respectively, June 11-July 12, 2001. Sons of J. Lanuza, Auctioneer.

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LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the estate of late Alejandro G. Nable has been extrajudicially settled among his heirs as per Doc. No. 211 Page No. 78 Book No. VI Series of 2001 by Atty. Cipriano A. Almazan of Makati City (PDI-Oct.23,30 & Nov.6,2001)

PERSONAL

Happy Birthday LEIO
Thanx 4All D Joys & Colors
That u bring into my life.
I Love You always! Bogs.

NOVENA TO THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS AND SAINT JUDE

May the most Sacred Heart of Jesus be praised, blessed, loved, adored and glorified throughout the whole world now and forever. Amen.

Most Sacred Heart of Jesus. Pray for us.

St. Jude, worker of miracles, helper for the helpless, pray for us.

Say nine times a day for nine days. Prayer will be answered by the eighth day, it has never failed.

Thank you very much, Most Sacred Heart of Jesus and St. Jude, for favor granted.

Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF COMPOSTELA VALLEY
MUNICIPALITY OF NABUNTURAN
OFFICE OF THE MUNICIPAL MAYOR
Agrarian Reform Communities Development Project

INVITATION TO BID

November 06, 2001
World Bank/IBRD
Loan No. 4109-PH

The Government of the Philippines has received a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development towards the cost of the *Agrarian Reform Communities Development Project (ARCDP)* and intends to apply part of the funds to cover eligible payments under the Contract No. RI SWIP 01 402 10 NAB DP for the Construction of Magsaysay II Small Water Impounding Project (SWIP) located at Brgy. Magsaysay, Nabunturan, Compostela Valley. Bidding is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the Guidelines: Procurement under IBRD Loan and IDA Credits.

The Municipality of Nabunturan. Compostela Valley and implementing partner of the DAR for ARCDP invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the construction of the following sub-project:

Description of the Project: ***Construction of impounding dam, spillway, outlet and irrigation works.***

Item No.	Work Breakdown Structure	Quantity% Project Cost
1.0	Construction of field office temporary facilities and Movement of equipment	3.65%
2.0	Clearing & Grubbing for Reservoir & Borrow Areas	3.06%
3.0	Construction of Dam	51.84%
4.0	Construction of Spillway	14.48%
5.0	Construction of Diversion/Outlet Works	5.43%
6.0	Irrigation/Canal Lining Works	21.55%

Project Category: Dam and Reservoir/Irrigation Works Medium "A" or higher
Bid Security: P112,100.00 or 2.5% of total bid price which ever is higher
Bid Closing Date: December 14, 2001 / 10:00 AM at Municipal Mayor's Conference Hall

Minimum Equipment Required
Bulldozer-owned; Vibratory (15 ton min) Road Roller-owned; Loader-owned/Leased; 2 units-Backhoe owned/leased; 2 units Dump Truck-owned; Water Truck-owned; Survey Instrument-leased/owned

A complete set of bidding documents maybe purchased by interested bidders at above office starting **November 14, 2001** upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Four Thousand Pesos Only (P4,000.00).

A Pre-bid Conference will be held on **November 23, 2001** at 1:00 PM at the Municipal Mayor's Conference Hall.

All bids must be accompanied by a bid security in a form of Cash, Certified Check, Manager's Check, Bank Draft or its equivalent in a freely convertible currency and must be delivered to the Office of the Municipal Mayor, Nabunturan, Compostela Valley on or before the bid closing date. Bids will be opened promptly on the above bid closing date in the presence of participating bidders or representatives who choose to attend.

The PBAC-ARCDP reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any defect or formality, assume no obligation whatsoever to compensate indemnity to the contractor/ bidder for any expense that they incur in the preparation of bid and to accept the lowest evaluated, responsive and complying bid.

HON. MACARIO T. HUMOL
Mayor/Chairman PBAC-ARCDP

(PDI – Nov. 6, 2001)

UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES IN THE VISAYAS
Miagao, Iloilo, Philippines 5023
Tel. Nos.: 3381534 to 35 (PLDT)

UPV PREQUALIFICATION, BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

INVITATION FOR APPLICATION FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The University of the Philippines in the Visayas (UPV) hereby invites all interested parties to apply for eligibility and to bid for the UPV NET PHASE 2 PROJECT classified as follows:

1. **ITEM 1 -** Network Backbone (Detailed engineering design, supply installation, testing and documentation)
2. **ITEM 2 -** Network Equipment (Supply and installation of workstations, servers, Uninterruptible Power Supply and network equipment)

The application for eligibility may be obtained from the UPV Bids and Awards Committee, Office of the Vice Chancellor for Administration (OVCA), UP Visayas, Miagao, Iloilo from **Nov. 9-13, 2001** during office hours. Bidding documents will be issued to eligible contractors upon payment to the University Cashier of a non-refundable fee of Three Thousand Pesos (P3,000.00) for ITEM 1, and Two Thousand Pesos for ITEM 2, from **November 19-21, 2001** during office hours.

A Pre-Bid conference is scheduled on **Nov. 26, 2001**; opening of Bids on **Dec. 13, 2001**. The venue of these activities shall be at the Conference Room of the New Administration Building, UPV Miagao campus, Iloilo at 2:00 PM. For further inquiries, please get in touch with the UPV-OVCA through Mrs. Myrna Ballada at telephone nos. 315-8141 or 338-1535.

The University reserves the right to reject any or all bids without offering any reason, waive any defect or informality contained therein and to make an award to the bidder whose proposal is most advantageous to the government. The University further assumes no obligation whatsoever to compensate or indemnify the bidders for expenses or losses that may be incurred in connection with the said bidding. In case of failure of bidding, a re-bidding shall be automatically re-scheduled after the announcement of failure of bid, at the same time and place as the first bidding.

(Sgd.) **LORENZA B. PADOJINOG**
Vice Chancellor for Adm. Chair, UPV-PBAC

(PDI – Nov. 6 & 10, 2001)

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INVITATION TO PREQUALIFY

For Contract No. ADB/OAS—2001/042

1. The Asian Development Bank ("ADB"), a multilateral development institution headquartered in Manila, Philippines, invites interested parties to apply for prequalification in the bidding of ADB's Cafeteria Roofdeck Reconstruction.
2. The project consists of taking out all the existing lay-in insulation and concrete pavers, on top of the existing wooden roofdeck of the Cafeteria, and installing an independent, pre-insulated, sandwich-panel roof on metal frames to protect the existing wooden deck. The project work area consists of:
   a. 1,175 M^2 of new pre-insulated, sandwich-panel roof on metal frames
   b. 236 M^2 of skylight to be cleaned, repaired, and replacement of sealant
   c. 454 M^2 of clerestorey to be cleaned, repaired, and replacement of sealant
   d. 177 linear meters of new fiberglass gutters
   e. 118 linear meters of repair of seismic gutter
   f. 153.40 M^2 of wooden sidings to be replaced with metal spandrel
   g. Touch-up/repair work of immediate areas of works that may be affected as a result of the project execution.
3. Applications for prequalification are open to all firms and voluntarily formed joint ventures, but only those companies meeting ADB's minimum requirements will be successful.
4. Prequalification documents may be obtained from the Head, Contracts Section, General Services Division, Office of Administrative Services, Room 4223N at the above address from **7-9 November 2001 (8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.)** upon presentation of the receipt of payment in cash or manager's check of a non-refundable nominal fee of Pesos: Two Hundred (P200) at the ADB's Cash Room, Room G239W.
5. This invitation does not entail any commitment on the part of the ADB, either financial or otherwise. Any cost of preparation for prequalification shall be borne solely by the applicant. The ADB reserves the right to accept or reject any application for prequalification, and to [illegible] ts. Only prequalified companies considered by ADB will

(Sgd.) **NORMIN S. PAKPAHAN**
Chairman, Procurement Committee
Office of Administrative Services

(PDI – Nov 5 & 6, 2001)

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2 Cor. 4:14

"I came forth from
the Father, and have come
into the world; I am leaving
the world again, and going
to the Father."
John 16:28

We remember and pray for the eternal rest of the soul of our dear

JOSE VICTOR "JV" FRANCO

loving son and brother,
on his 3rd death anniversary
on November 6, 2001.

Masses for the repose of his soul will be offered in churches all over the country.

"Whoever believes in Him shall not perish
but have everlasting life."
John 3:16

ADRIAN S. FONG

Peacefully joined his Creator
on November 4, 2001 at the age of 83.

His loving wife **Virginia David**; children **Becky** and **Mon**, **Romy** and **Marcia**, **Richard** and **Noreen**, **Sander** and **Alice**; and his grandchildren mourn his passing away but celebrate his eternal life with the Lord Jesus.

His remains lie in state at the Christ the King Church, Greenmeadows Avenue.

Interment will be at the Manila Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque on Thursday, November 8, 2001 after the 9:00 a.m. Necrological Service.

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son,
and whoever believes in Him shall not perish
but have everlasting life."

DR. MELANIO A. BIBAY

Peacefully joined his Creator on November 2, 2001
at the age of 74.

Together with our loving **MAMANG**, **REGINE**, we his children **MEL, JR.**, **RED**, **MYKEL**, and **YAM**; his in-laws **CHARMAINE**, **JERA**, **DEB** and his grandchildren **KRIS**, **KEVIN**, **JADE**, **JAM** and **KAYLA** and other relatives and friends request you to pray for him on his eternal journey with our Lord.

His remains lie in state at Arlington Memorial Chapels,
12 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be on Thursday, November 8, 2001, 12:00 noon
at the Libingan ng mga Bayani, Fort Bonifacio, Makati City.

Our Dearly Beloved Tatay

RAMON MIRAFLORES y DELA CHICA

Peacefully joined his Creator on
3 November 2001 at the age of 94.

Widower of the late **Amparo Lafuente** (†)

His beloved children **Atty. Ramon, Jr.**, **Col. Eriberto**, **Elizabeth**, **Antonio**, **Norma**, **Romeo**, **Juliet & Mario** request the pious readers to pray for the eternal rest of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Holy Trinity Memorial Chapels, Sucat Road, Parañaque City.

Interment follows the scheduled Funeral Mass at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, 10 November 2001.

Zeny Lumba — our greatest blessing from God.
Thank you, Dear Lord, for her lifetime with us...

Our Dearly Beloved Mommy

Mrs. Zenaida Capili Lumba

Peacefully joined her Creator on November 3, 2001 at the age of 69.

Loving widow of **JOSE**; dedicated and most loving mother to **JOY** and **ARNEL ABELA**, **LEO**, **LARRY** and **GRACE**, and **LIZZA** and **LITO LINSANGAN**; generous and ever-caring lola to **JC**, **JUSTIN**, **KEVIN**, **ROXANNE**, **CARISSA**, **JORELL**, **JOLO**, **JANNELLE**, **JOSE ANTONIO** and **JOSE GABRIEL**; sincere and thoughtful sister to **NELIA** and **ERNESTO** (†), **SABAS** and **LINDA**, **ANTONIO** (†) and **FELY**, **ARMANDO** and **LILY**, **LEVY** and **DOMENG**, **FERNANDO** (†) and **LOLIT**, **ESTER**, **REMILY**, and **ARACELI** and **MAR**.

Her remains lie in state at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish Church, Mahinhin St., UP Village, Diliman, Quezon City.

Interment will be on November 7, 2001 after the 1:00 p.m. Mass at the family plot at Holy Cross Memorial Park, Novaliches, Quezon City.

Thank you Mommy for loving us....

REV. FR. TEOFILO V. VINTERES, C.SS.R.

Vice-Provincial Superior of the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer
- Redemptorist Vice-Province of Manila -

Died in the Grace of our Lord
on the 5th of November at the age of 68.

Lies in state at the National Shrine of Our Mother
of Perpetual Help, Baclaran, Parañaque City.
The Funeral Mass will be on November 9, 2001, Friday at 9:30 AM.
(Foundation Day of the Redemptorist Congregation)

MAY HE REST IN PEACE.

"Eternal life will swallow up that which can die. God made us for this very reason and He has given us the Spirit as a guarantee that we will live again."
2 Cor. 5:4-5

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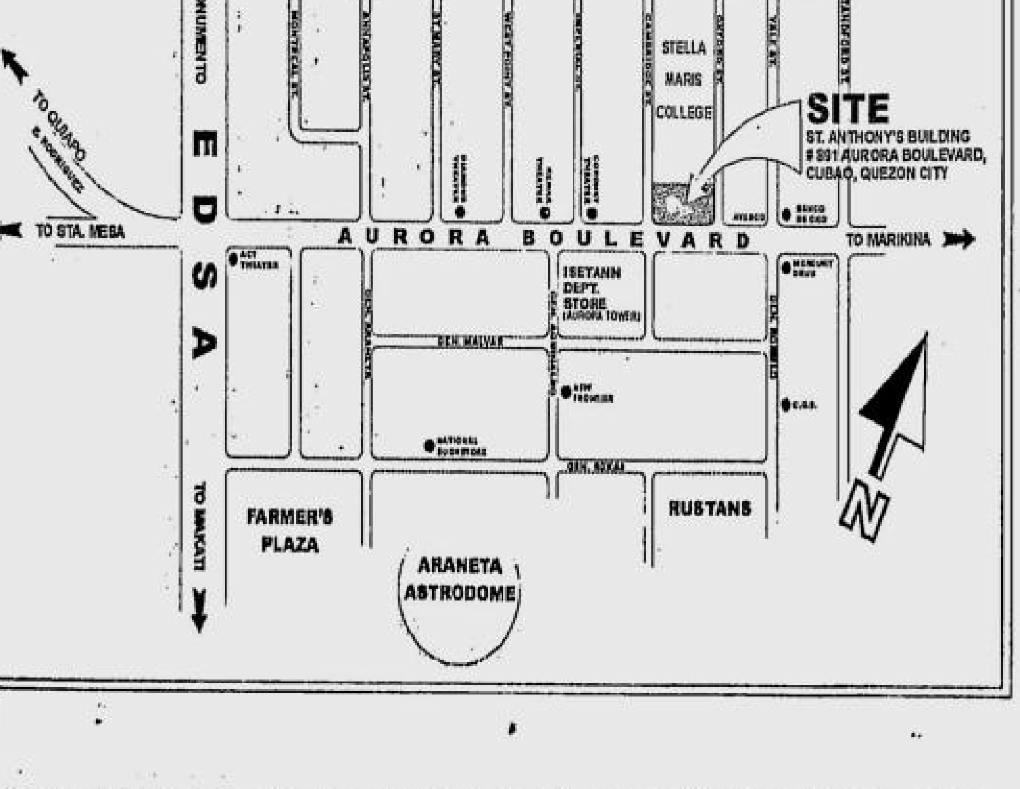

REAL ESTATE

CESAR D. MANGAWANG, Editor

BOT projects boost country's economy

THE NAIA 3 project, currently the biggest construction venture in the whole of Southeast Asia, has given a big boost to the construction industry. A recent report by the Department of Trade Construction Industry Authority of the Philippines (Ciap) shows that the IPT 3 project has kept afloat the otherwise slumping construction business in the country with over 4,500 employment opportunities created by the construction of the new terminal.

Construction demand in the first semester of the year rose by 1.6 percent in contrast with the 4.5 percent decline during the same period last year. This is attributed to a 4.3 percent increase in public construction as a result of the release of government funds for capital expenditures and the increase inflow from foreign and local investments for build-operate-transfer projects, particularly the Naia International Passenger Terminal 3 (IPT 3).

This was the assessment made by the Ciap in its report on the construction industry performance for the first semester of 2001. Overall the report attests that the BOT project, of which the IPT 3 is currently the biggest, has affected a 1.6 percent increase in construction demand in the first semester of this year. The Naia 3 project verifies the effectiveness of the BOT scheme to attract investments into the country and consequently resuscitate the country's declining economy.

Meanwhile, local and foreign investors are eyeing the Naia 3 project as a channel for complementary development of the site itself, as well as adjacent areas. Development will be geared toward providing a broader range of amenities for international travelers and the public such as hotels, offices, rental facilities and conference facilities. The Naia 3 project is already 53 percent completed and is on target for its December 2002 opening.

PARK AMENITIES

Affordable housing developer Empire East Properties Inc. has recently completed the mini park's gazebo, trellis and landscaping work for Governor's Hills, its flagship township project in General Trias, Cavite. Governor's Hills is an 89-hectare integrated residential and commercial development which has started turning over completed units to homebuyers. Empire East will also make available a number of superior amenities to its residents including playgrounds, jogging paths, tennis and basketball courts, a swimming pool and a village clubhouse.

Asphalt works ongoing at Bonifacio Global City

FORT Bonifacio Development Corp. is currently undertaking final layering of asphalt on the roads of the Bonifacio Global City within the Big Delta and the Expanded Big Delta areas. Anderson Asphalt Phils. Inc., project contractor, has commenced this asphalt final wearing course project since Sept. 27 of this year and expects to complete it by the second week of December.

Upon completion, the roads will be free from bumps and motorists can expect a very smooth drive around the Bonifacio Global City. Manhole covers that stick out above the existing asphalt level will also be recessed to ensure a bump-free drive along the city's roads.

Roads around the Essensa East Forbes, Pacific Plaza Towers, Net One Center, Bonifacio Ridge and the city's main thoroughfare, 32nd Street are given priority by the contractors for the benefit of residents, office employees and their guests.

The project is being undertaken in line with the FBDC's vision and in pursuit of its commitment of providing modern and world-class infrastructure for the Bonifacio Global City.

Buenaventura to address developers' meeting

GOVERNOR Rafael Buenavetura of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas has been invited to address the business meeting of the Subdivision and Housing Developers Association tomorrow, starting at noon at the Makati AB Room, Shangri-La Hotel, Makati City.

Marilu M. Alferez, SHDA governor and chair of the business meeting, said Buenaventura is expected to discuss the status of the banking system, interest rates and other fiscal policies of the Bangko Sentral, as these affect the promotion of sustainable housing finance as well as the provision of a conducive financial environment for the participation of private financial institutions in mortgage financing.

The SHDA is the conglomerate of prime producers of housing inventories for the socialized and low-cost shelter program of the government apart form being a flagship group in property development.

3 gov't agencies to speed up titling of urban poor housing

THE HOUSING and Urban Development Coordinating Council, the Land Registration Authority and the National Home Mortgage Finance Corp. are adopting measures to easen the titling requirement for lands to be purchased by informal settlers using loans from the government's Community Mortgage Program being granted by the NHMFC.

The measures, to boost the achievement of the government's 50,000 informal housing targets, are contained in a memorandum of agreement that was signed by the three agencies in Malacañang witnessed by President Macapagal.

Signatories of the agreement were Secretary Michael T. Defensor, LRA administrator Sinecio Ortile, NHMFC president Angelico T. Salud and Ma. Ana R. Oliveros, president of the National Congress of CMP Originators and Social Development Organizations for Low-Income Housing.

Under the agreement, the NHMFC shall no longer require that the Secretary's Certificate, which authorizes the community association of informal settlers to purchase the land, to be annotated in the land title. In lieu of this, proof that the said certificate is on file with the Registry of Deed will suffice.

Processing of release of the CMP loans shall also proceed even if the approved land title/s may contain minor typographical errors that however do not affect the title/s' validity or regularity of issuance.

The LRA also commits that the concerned Registry of Deeds shall cause the transfer of the title/s in the name of the community association, as a prerequisite before the release of the CMP loans or full payment of the subject property, within three days from the time of registration and submission of complete documents.

Moreover, when the subject land title has already been reconstituted, the NHMFC shall no longer require the submission of the derivative title/s when a reconstituted title has been submitted. But if the requirement involves the submission of a burned or destroyed title/s, a certification to the effect issued by the Registry of Deeds shall suffice.

The LRA shall also establish an express lane for the CMP projects to fully attain the objectives of the agreement, for which a liaison officer shall be assigned to personally advise and assist parties having transactions relative to the CMP.

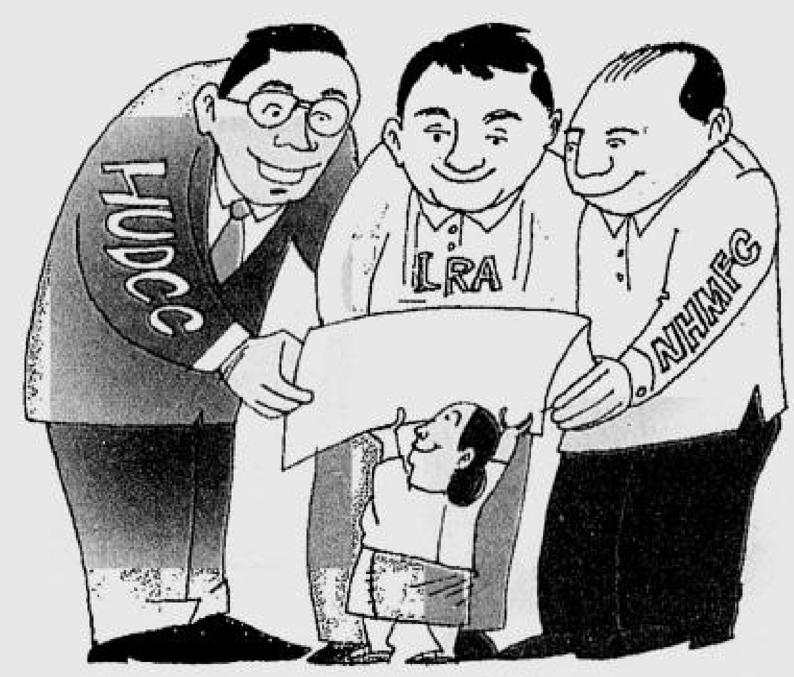

ILLUSTRATION: ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

Kidzworld opens second phase soon

IT'S full speed ahead for KidzWorld, the giant edu-tainment adventure complex in Dasmariñas, Cavite, as it is slated to open its second phase first quarter of 2002.

The second of a five-phase development features the club's waterworld named as the Batanes Cove, where members and guests can have a taste of conquistador Ferdinand Magellan's adventures. Fearless travelers are in for a surprise as they journey through The Batanes Cove's Triassic white-water rafting dark ride adventure, log ride, white sand beach and wave pool, heated pool, and lazy river. One can even do rock climbing on craggy rocks plus explore a true replica of Magellan's historic galleon. You can also discover a natural creek as you hike The Sagada Trail. Lined with a variety of endemic and rare flora plus a natural creek, The Sagada Trail is surely a nature enthusiast's delight.

The first of its kind adventure theme park to open in Cavite, KidzWorld is envisioned to be the country's premier edu-tainment haven providing a wholesome, stimulating play-and-learn environment where kids are nurtured and encouraged to develop their full potential. Moreover, KidzWorld aims to strengthen family bond as its exciting features and numerous activities encourage families to spend more time interacting with one another.

Take for example the first ever 18-Hole Pitch-Chip-and Putt Course, which was unveiled to the public this summer. Unlike other golf courses where children are prohibited to play in the fairways, at KidzWorld, kids of all ages can enjoy a quality game of golf with their parents. This world-class course was built to conform to the strict standards of the United States Golf Association. What's more, it's an all-weather-playable-at-night executive course where families can practice those nerve-wrecking putts and chips, and play some short game together whenever they like.

KidzWorld's phase three is another action-packed adventure where families can virtually trek to the seven continents of the world. The enchanting Magellan's Playworld features the Asian Fishing Village, the African Safari Maze, the International Dollhouse Village, Europe's Eiffel Tower Slide and the St. Peter's Dome Wading Pool, the South American Remote Control Rallye Racing, Australian Carousel and Antartica's Igloo.

For some welcome break from all those thrills, KidzWorld offers Kidz Palace (Phase Four), where royal treatment awaits guests. Join Mom and Dad as they kick off theirs shoes and relax in the THX Home Theater, Health Spa and Fitness Gym, Beauty Salon, Themed Dining Restaurant, Artists' Gallery, and Internet Café. For some peace and quiet meditation, there's the nearby Garden. Kidz Palace is also where you can mix work and pleasure with the well-equipped Business Center. Moreover, there is also a daycare center at your service, a Soft Gym with gigantic building blocks, Record-n-Play Studio and a Dance and Game Room to keep children occupied and productive.

As for the teens and kids-at-heart, they will definitely be fording it over at the Multi-Level Activity Center or MAC (Phase Five). This glass and steel eight-story building houses the ice skating rink, glow-in-the-dark bowling alley, an Olympic-sized swimming pool, Go-Kart Racing Track, Ghost Blasterz Adventure Ride, and a multipurpose gym where you can practice fencing, gymnastics, basketball, badminton, and other popular sports.

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27-story residential condo rises in Greenbelt area

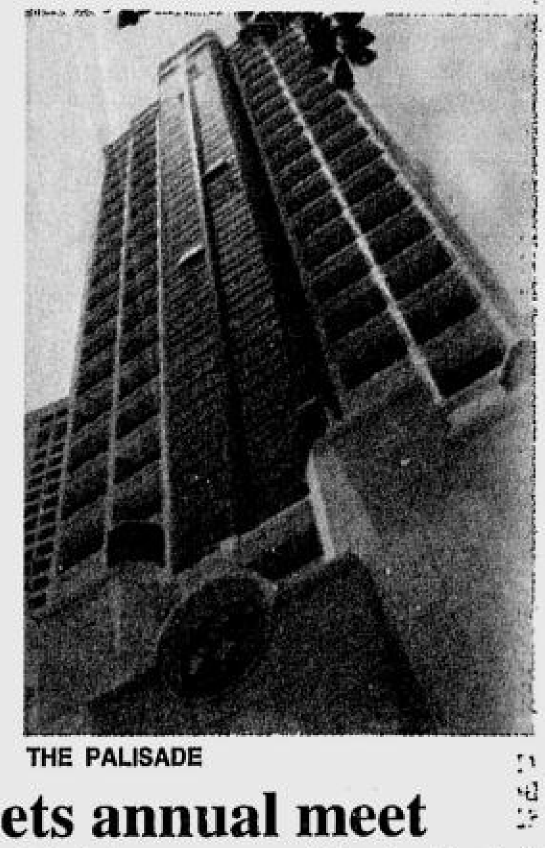
THERE'S a new landmark in the revitalized Greenbelt area. A residential masterpiece designed by noted architect William Coscolluela, The Palisades is the newest residential condominium to rise in Legaspi Village.

Located at 107 Perea St., Legaspi Village, Makati City, The Palisades is a 27-story masterpiece with 70 residential units, with each floor having only four units. Each of the residential units is furnished with a foyer, two bedrooms with balconies, two spacious bathrooms, a living and a dining room, a kitchen and a laundry/service area and a maid's quarter with bathroom.

The Palisades also provided a floor with gym, swimming pool and a multipurpose hall for recreation and that sought-after "quality time" for its resident's family and friends.

The building is equipped with modern fire and safety technology, a deepwell water facility as an alternative water source, three high-speed elevators, a stand-by power generator, seven floors of parking space with a driver's lounge equipped with paging facility, centralized garbage disposal system, a closed-circuit television system and a busduct system for the building's electrical requirement.

The Palisades is definitely a class on its own. The builders are so proud of their jewel that the developer and its architect have their headquarters based on the building itself to give its residents accessibility to the people behind the project.



THE PALISADE

Real estate group sets annual meet

THE NATIONAL Real Estate Association will hold its annual general assembly and elections on Friday from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. at the Sampaguita Room, Club Filipino, Greenhills, San Juan, Metro Manila.

Lawyer Ruben B. Palacio Jr., NREA secretary general, said that members in good standing will vote for 15 members of the NREA board of trustees, who in turn will elect among themselves the executive officers who will lead the association for the year 2001-2002.

The current officers of the NREA are Jose Manalad, chair; Placido Calma, vice chair; Tirs Pacheco, president; Celia Umali, vice president-internal; Felino Palafox Jr., VP-external; Lourdes Estacio, VP-chapters; Ruben Palacio Jr., secretary general; Francisco Mendoza, treasurer; Adelaido De Guzman, auditor; and Ricardo Bolipata, public relations officer.

Members of the board of trustees are Moises Balon, Rolando Liao, Dante Liban, Erlinda Tayengco, Vicente Yordan and Reynaldo Carpio, immediate past president.

To supervise the conduct of elections are Moises Balon, Evelina Estrada, Bercy Garcia and Ramon Veluz, constituting the committee on elections.

The members of the board of advisers are Sen. Rodolfo Biazon, Alexander Asuncion, Ruben Asuncion, Representatives Eduardo C. Zialcita and Jose G. Solis.

The Housing Summit: action plans, initiatives, low interest rates

BY CHARLIE V. GORAYEB

SEN. Francis Pangilinan, second from left, chair of the Senate committee on housing, resettlement and urban development, spoke at the recent Creba-HUDCC National Convention. He supported the Creba advocacy for a comprehensive approach to the housing problem. Also shown, from left, are Creba national president Charlie V. Gorayeb; housing committee vice chair Rep. Eduardo C. Zialcita and chair Rep. Prospero Nograles; and Rep. Monico Puentebella. Zialcita tackled the provisions of the proposed Housing and Urban Development Act that he authored, while Nograles discussed the priority House agenda on housing.

KEY issues were identified, with intimations of detailed responses recognized as "general directions" in such areas as housing finance, production, regulation and urban development and institutional development. Yes, the first step was taken. Now for the second step—an Urban Forum to work out concrete actions that will implement the indicated directions.

That, in brief, was how the Summit on Housing and Urban Development convened by President Macapagal at Malacañang was accomplished a fortnight ago. Through it, and earlier regional consultations among government, business and private sector, and civil society, the spirit of tripartism was fostered.

Key concern

Fully aware that finance is "a key concern in the delivery of housing services," the Summit sought a centralized institutional mechanism to manage and administer government housing assistance and subsidies for the formal and nonformal poor." This is a major Creba advocacy for a Comprehensive Home Financing Program, which is part of its package of housing reforms. Most of these reform components, including the establishment of a full-fledged Department of Housing and Urban Development, have been consolidated in the proposed Omnibus Housing and Urban Development Act introduced by Rep. Eduardo C. Zialcita in the House of Representatives.

The Summit also sought the creation of such a department which aims to systematize the functions of various housing agencies into a total effort in the "war" against growing homelessness in this country.

But, between now and, perhaps, even during and shortly after, the concretizing work of the forthcoming Urban Forum, the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council will continue what Secretary Michael T. Defensor called "current initiatives" to address the issues. For time, more than ever, is of the essence, and the government must continue working.

Defensor said the government responded to the trisectoral proposal to rationalize the grant of housing subsidies to ensure these are targeted and transparent, and channel them to those who really need help. While the mechanism is still to be drawn up and the funding is to be sourced, the interest subsidy scheme will continue.

New interest rates

An announcement that should be welcomed by developers and homebuyers alike was about Pag-Ibig Fund's restructured interest rates. The new major thrust in its housing program to allow more members to avail themselves of housing loan benefits. Interest rates have been lowered as follows: from 12 percent to 9 percent for loans up to P180,000; from 16 percent to 12 percent for over P180,000 up to P500,000; 16 percent for over P500,000 to P2 million. The interest rates cover the entire range of low-cost, economic and middle housing house-and-lot packages.

The new interest rates will not only attract more people to join Pag-Ibig, but these may well create a big impact on the government's housing program and even help pump-prime the economy.

Focus shifted to ongoing programs to liquefy existing housing mortgages, receivables and assets worth P90 billion, to float Community Mortgage Program bonds and securitize the old Unified Home Lending Program mortgages. This is expected to raise upfront some P15 billion fresh money.

The Home Guaranty Corp. will float socialized housing bonds, the proceeds of which will be used for relocation programs. The HGC is working for the release of a P10 billion capitalization fund, so private and government financial institutions will go into housing and support initiatives to securitize and issue housing-related instruments and securities.

Financing needs

A lending window will be opened for the financing needs of the informal sector for mortgage loans or housing material loans. The Pag-Ibig Fund and the Land Bank of the Philippines have launched a pilot program for farmer-cooperatives.

Programs are being worked out to restructure and condone penalties of loan borrowers under the old UHLP. The collection efficiency for mortgages wit the National Home Mortgage Finance Corp. and the CMP is 47 percent, while that for Pag-Ibig's mortgages is 70 percent.

The low utilization of housing loans in government financial institutions under the Multi-Window Lending Scheme is being discussed with these banks. Of the P6 billion fund available at the DBP, only P1.81 billion was availed of. At the GSIS, P127.8 million out of P6 billion, and at the LBP, P188 million of its P6 billion.

The plan is for the LBP and the DBP to focus on developmental loans for sites and services programs and livelihood component loans for housing cooperatives, among others. These state banks may also take part in the secondary mortgage market by investing in instruments issued against mortgages. There are other important programs being looked into or now being carried out by the HUDCC.

Concrete floor protector proves more cost-effective than ceramic, vinyl or epoxy

HEAVY customer traffic is an indication of good business for supermarkets. However, the constant battering of feet, shopping carts, fork lifts and multilevel racks compounded by liquid drippings from fish and meat products will damage unprotected concrete floors, not to mention, cause wet market stench.

Ceramic and vinyl tiles are traditionally used as floor protectors in conjunction with epoxy, which acts as a waterproofer. But while these offer a certain degree of protection, they also silently drain resources from the company as they require a great deal of time and effort just to maintain and clean. Yet, after a prolonged exposure to abuse, ceramic tiles will crack, vinyl tiles will peel and epoxy will tear. Eventually they will all have to be replaced.

Ashford Formula, America's leading concrete floor protector, on the other hand, protects concrete floors permanently at practically no maintenance-cost, with a 20-year warranty to boot. It works by reacting to moisture and chemical agents in concrete, reducing air space to a size, which bars moisture yet still allowing the concrete to breathe. After treatment, the concrete is densified, hardened, sealed, and dust- and water-proofed. That's why a simple mop and bucket of water cleaning system replaces the need for constant stripping, cleaning, waxing and buffing. What's more amazing is that the more traffic abuse or abrasion on Ashford Formula-protected concrete floors, the shinier the floor gets.

No wonder S&R Price (Costco in the United States), one of America's largest retail chains, uses Ashford Formula to protect its US-standard stores in the Philippines. Its first, with a floor space of more than 5,000 square meters, is located in Fort Bonifacio; while its second, will serve the Cainta, Rizal corridor. And more of this "stateside-quality" shoppers' paradise are on the pipeline to provide more communities with a higher level of shopping standards.

Clearly, compared to conventional concrete floor protectors, a small investment in Ashford Formula translates to significant savings in operating expenses as it effectively protects the long-term value of entire facilities at practically no added maintenance or repair. Ashford Formula can be used to treat and protect new concrete floors or existing ones, prolonging the life span of the latter for years.

Ashford Formula is considered, since 1947, as the most trusted concrete protector by America's top companies such as Coca-Cola and Coors (warehouses with tons-heavy racks), Kraft and Kellogg's (high-sanitation food processing), Keebler and Van de Camp (exposure to bakery fats and oils), Oscar Mayer (wet meat processing), Intel (dust-free cleanrooms), GM Saturn (automotive plant) and United Airline hangars.

In the Philippines, Ashford Formula is exclusively distributed and handled by Tradetek Resources Inc. For more information, call up Tradetek at 810-2991 to 95 or e-mail at tradetek@info.com.ph. For further technical details, visit www.ashfordformula.com.

PMRB opens realty seminar

THE PASAY-MAKATI Realtors Board Inc. yesterday opened its 52nd Comprehensive Real Estate Seminar and Review (Cresar) at the Asian Institute of Management on Páseo de Roxas, Makati City

Sessions will be held every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 6-9 p.m. Prominent speakers and lecturers who are proficient in their field of specialization are lined up to provide in-depth coverage of the realty trade. This seminar is set to prepare the participants for the upcoming broker's examination, which is slated on Nov. 25 at the PSBA in Quezon City.

The course includes all relevant topics and an intensive review with emphasis on past examinations. All lecture materials will be provided.

The PMRB is still accepting registrants today at its office at Unit 502-P Parking Building, Cityland 10, H.V. dela Costa St., Ayala Avenue, Makati City. You may register directly tomorrow at the AIM Building (in front of Greenbelt Theater), Paseo de Roxas, Makati City, before 6 p.m., or call up the PMRB secretariat at 893-0569 and 8930585 for more information.

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Exports dropped 22% in Sept.

Gov't eyes ways to battle exports slump

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

THE PHILIPPINES has to expand its basket of export products and hunt for new export market in order to weather the slump in major global economies.

In a statement, Trade Secretary Manuel Roxas II said a more diverse export portfolio and broader market base would help the country sustain its exports industry, which he considered the lifeblood of the country's economy.

More than 60 percent of the country's export revenues come from the semiconductors and electronics industry which is currently going through its worst downturn in 40 years.

Roxas said his agenda in his meeting with counterparts from other countries was focused on identifying new export items and new markets.

The government, for example, has stepped up its efforts to boost production of *'halal'* food products (food safe for Muslims to eat) to get a bigger share of the predominantly Muslim countries in the Middle East, he said.

Roxas added that the government has also initiated talks with the European Union for greater access to their markets specifically for garments. At present, the majority of the country's garments and textile exports are shipped to the US and the government is keen on reducing the country's dependence on American buyers.

Roxas said the drive for new products and new markets has become more urgent considering the declining trend in the country's exports which fell 22 percent to $2.731 billion in September this year from $3.502 billion during the same period last year.

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE COUNTRY's export earnings slumped by 22 percent in September as Philippine products continued to face rough sailing in offshore markets due to the global slowdown which was even aggravated by the recent terrorist attacks in the United States.

Although the contraction of export receipts in September was slightly lower than the 25.8 percent recorded in August, analysts said a bottoming out was still far out in the horizon. In fact, they said the country's export figures would still worsen in the coming months as the country feels the full impact of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

The National Statistics Office yesterday reported that earnings from merchandise exports fell to $2.73 billion in September from $3.5 billion during the same month last year, led by the sharp slowdown in revenues from electronic components.

Receipts from electronic components, which accounted for the lion's share of the entire export basket with a 52.4 percent share, went down by 34 percent to $1.43 billion.

Exports of apparel and clothing accessories, which ranked a far second top earner with a 6.8 percent share, fell by 21.3 percent. Income from ignition wiring and other wiring sets used in vehicle, aircraft and ships as well as from woodcraft and furniture likewise dropped by 11.5 percent and 24.8 percent, respectively.

Revenues from manufactured goods, representing 88.1 percent of total receipts, dropped by 25.2 percent. On the other hand, income from agro-based products grew by 2.9 percent but this accounted only for a minimal 4.7 percent of the total receipts.

Exports to the United States and Japan, the country's top export destinations with a respective share of 29 percent and 14.4 percent, continued to fall by double-digit levels in September. The value of exports to the US dropped by 25.9 percent to $788.58 million while the value of exports to Japan, by 19.2 percent to $394.6 million.

The country's earnings from exports have now fallen by 14.1 percent to $23.93 billion during the first nine months of the year.

Abacus Securities economist Emilio Neri Jr. said: "This still doesn't show the full effect of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. October and onwards will give a more complete picture on how deep the contraction could be."

"But if the contraction remained at the 20 percent, given the growth reports during the first semester, we can still avoid a recession for the rest of the year," Neri said.

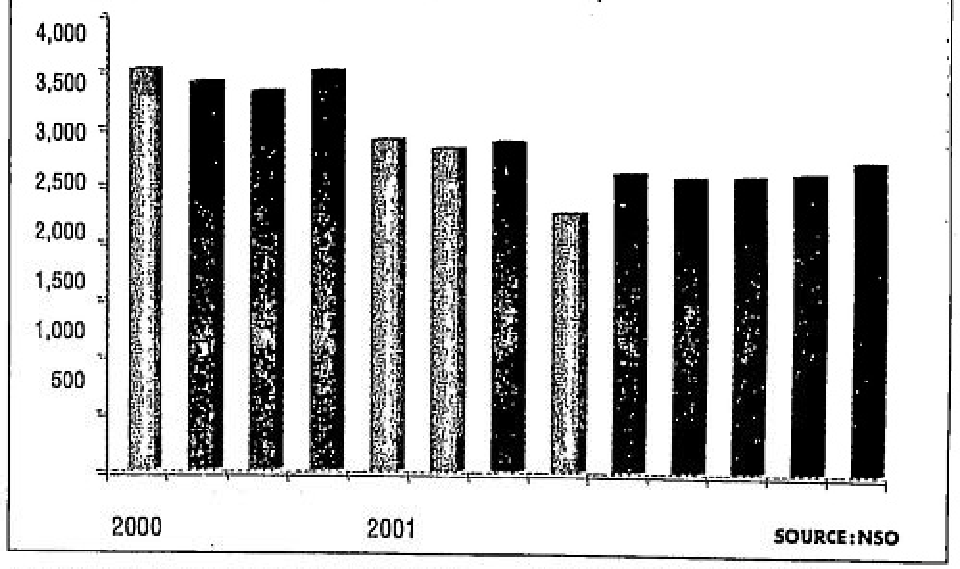
But if the contraction would worsen to as much as 40-50 percent, Neri said, it would be difficult for the country to stay out of recession.

AB Capital Securities Jose Vistan said the numbers were still likely to worsen for the rest of the year due to the ripples from the Sept. 11 attacks.

"Recent surveys in the US showed that US consumers are holding on to their money. This is affecting not just the US businessmen but the exports of trading partners like the Philippines," Vistan said.

Total Exports

(Sept. 2000 to Sept. 2001, in million $)



SOURCE: NSO

Another foreign broker gives up on RP market

WORLDSEC International Securities (Philippines) Inc., the local brokerage unit of Japan's Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi, has joined the growing list of foreign brokerage houses that have given up on the Philippines due to the sluggish stock market.

An INQUIRER source said Worldsec has advised the Philippine Stock Exchange that it would suspend trading operations in the local bourse starting Nov. 15, making it the 14th foreign brokerage house to fold up stock trading operations in the Philippines since the start of the year.

Hong Kong-based Worldsec International has offices across the Asian region and sales office in London and New York. It is also listed on the London Stock Exchange.

Aside from Japanese banking giant Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi, Worldsec lists conglomerate Singapore Technologies among its key shareholders.

The local stock market has become one of the worst performing markets in the world with its main-share Philippine Stock Exchange composite index falling by 31.3 percent since the start of the year.

On the other hand, value turnover in the market has further deteriorated since the Asian currency turmoil of 1997 and the volume cut down by 77 percent since last year.

Daily value turnover has now fallen to an average of less than P500 million in the PSE, resulting in operating losses for many foreign brokerage houses.

Many of the top-heavy brokerage houses were unable to muster enough revenues from the thin market to pay for higher overhead costs compared with local brokers.

The 13 other foreign companies that have shut down or are winding down operations are GK Goh Securities, Rashid Hussain Securities (Philippines) Inc., TIR Securities, Citicorp Securities (Phils.) Inc., Merrill Lynch, BNP Paribas, Securities 2000, UOB Securities, Nomura Securities, Orion Squire Capital Inc., OCBC Securities, Guoco Securities and Magnum International Securities.

Brokers said the continuing shakeout of foreign brokers, which began in January this year, was not surprising especially now that the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks in the US added to the feeling of gloom over the stock market. *Doris C. Dumlao*

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LIFESTYLE
CHELO BANAL-FORMOSO, Editor

Fitness

Common questions men ask about exercise

Part I

WELL AND GOOD

Tina Aboitiz Juan

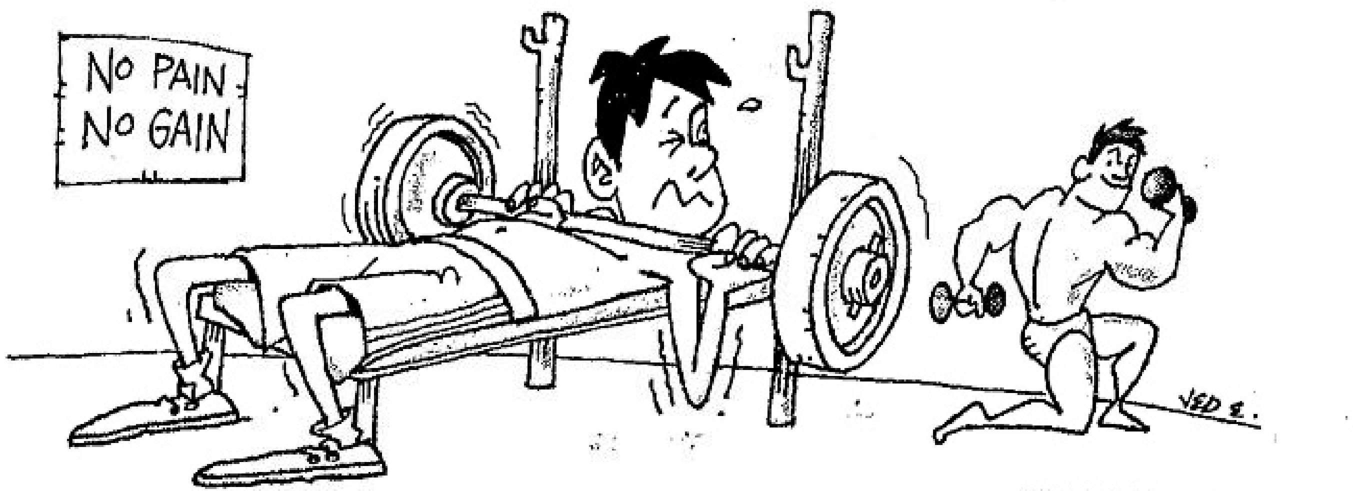


ILLUSTRATION: JED ESTRADA

CAN I get bigger muscles if I eat a lot of protein?

You do need protein to build muscles but that is only part of the whole picture. Protein will not automatically build big muscles. The other factors in the muscle-building equation are a solid weight-lifting program, enough total daily calories (especially carbohydrates) to fuel those heavy-duty workouts, and adequate rest and sleeping hours to recover from the strenuous work the muscles have to go through.

I started lifting weights four months ago, why aren't my muscles getting bigger?

Four months can be too soon to give up on lifting weights. Did you notice that you got stronger? Could you lift more weight at the end of those four months than you could at the beginning? If you did, then you are on the right track. You just need to give it more time.

Here's what scientists theorize on what happens inside your muscles when you start a weight-training program. The initial gains in strength are from changes in the motor unit system. A motor unit is a combination of nerve cells attached to muscle fibers. When you start the program, many of the motor units are inactive or dormant because the muscles were never trained to lift heavy weights. As you lift heavier and heavier weights, the body responds by "waking up" the dormant motor units. Until all the motor units are put to active duty, you will notice yourself getting stronger but your muscles may not be getting bigger. After the motor units are awakened, the muscle fibers respond by enlarging. This is called hypertrophy (the opposite of atrophy). How long does this process take? For some people, as little as six weeks, for others it can take as long as six months! Don't compare yourself to other people working out in the gym. Each person will respond at a different pace.

My problem area has always been my "love handles." I regularly do some abdominal crunches but nothing seems to happen.

"Love handles" are fat deposits that are common among males and can be just as stubborn to remove as saddlebags in women. Nature must have made sure that humans would always have a fat deposit to fall back against in times of famine. Something like a camel's hump! Abdominal exercises do not have a direct effect on "love handles" or "spare tires" because they do not require a great caloric expenditure. However, they are useful in "flattening" the tummy because the tighter your muscles are, the more they act like a natural girdle to hold in all the intestines and other abdominal organs. To get rid of "love handles," you need to consume fewer calories and exercise more (to burn excess calories) both through aerobic-type exercise and weight-lifting.

Is it true that you cannot lift weights if you have hypertension?

Aerobic or cardiovascular exercise is usually the recommended form of exercise to normalize blood pressure levels. However, weight training can be a good complement to aerobic exercise if you observe the following guidelines from the American Council on Exercise: Lift only light weights for 12-15 repetitions. Avoid heavy weight-lifting. Don't hold your breath or strain while doing the exercise. Always exhale on the exertion. Avoid exercises that raise your feet above the level of your head like a decline bench press. If you do exercises that raise the arms above the shoulders, like shoulder presses, keep the weight and repetitions to a minimum. Better yet, avoid overhead exercises. Do not grip the weights too tightly as this can block the flow of blood into your arm and increase your blood pressure.

Can regular workouts lower my cholesterol level?

Your total cholesterol score is composed of LDL (or bad cholesterol) and HDL (or good cholesterol). Exercise doesn't seem to affect the bad cholesterol (eating less saturated fat does) but it increases the good cholesterol. When you exercise and eat less saturated fat (these are fats from animal sources), your total cholesterol is usually lowered and the ratio should change for the better—less bad cholesterol and more good cholesterol.

I work out regularly in the gym doing weight-lifting and cardiovascular exercises. However, when I swam a few laps in a pool a few weeks ago, I felt tired easily. What could be the reason for this?

One of the basic principles of fitness is called the "specificity of training." It means that you become fit in whatever you train for. Since your fitness routine consists of the treadmill, stepper and weights, these are the activities that you will be fit for. You haven't been swimming as part of your regular routine. That's why you felt tired when you swam. If you swim regularly, your swimming endurance will improve. It doesn't mean that you aren't fit, it's just that you are not specifically fit for swimming. A swimmer who doesn't do the stepper or treadmill will also feel tired when he or she tries these machines.

I seldom experience muscle soreness. Is it okay? My trainer says it is better to have muscle soreness because it means there is an effect.

You don't necessarily have to experience muscle soreness to see effects on your muscles. Muscle soreness happens when you do an exercise that you are either not used to or you increase the frequency, duration or intensity of an exercise abruptly.

I have a recurring situation that happens every time I use the treadmill. My right side starts giving me a heartburn of sorts—a prickly and persistent strain near my sides. What can I do about it?

What you are feeling is called a "stitch in your side." It can attack either side of your trunk. Experts cannot agree on the reason, but they think it could be improper breathing, intestinal gas, a spasm of the diaphragm muscle, etc. One thing they do agree on is that the condition seems to appear only during intense exercise. Now, bear in mind that "intense" is a relative word. What a sedentary person finds intense would be a piece of cake for an elite athlete.

It can also happen if you don't do a gradual warm-up giving the body enough time to adjust to the increasing intensity. I have seen many people jump on a treadmill and go for it without going through at least five minutes of a slower warm-up speed. Even after a warm-up, the intensity should gradually climb and not spike way up suddenly.

The "stitch in the side" syndrome happens to me occasionally when I have been traveling a while and haven't had the same intensity of exercise as I am normally used to and then, assume that I am fit enough to resume where I left off. Boy, does my body remind me that I have to regain my old intensity level gradually.

> Don't compare yourself to others—each person responds at a different pace

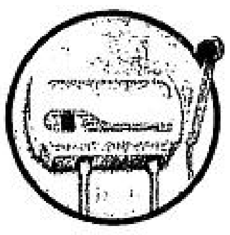
What to do when it occurs: Dig your fingers into the pain and lean your body to that side. Slow down while you are doing this, breathe normally and it should pass quickly.

The Association of Fitness Professionals of the Philippines will hold the 2001 National Fitness Convention, Nov. 24 and 25 at the Edsa Shangri-La Hotel, Ortigas Center, Pasig. International presenters are Lawrence Biscontini (Group Exercise), Dr. Mark Slavin (Personal Training) and John Young (Fitness Management). Mr. Biscontini will hold a Fitness Yoga Certification on Nov. 23 and a Resist-a-Ball Certification on Nov. 25 at the Manila Galleria Suites, Ortigas Center, Pasig. Call 842-0567.

For past articles or exercises, visit www.tinajuanfitness.com

E-mail the author at fitness@ibm.net or write at PDI Lifestyle

Tuwing Pag-paligo naka-pila ang buong pamilya. Sino kaya sa kanila ang mauna?
Sa sarap ng kanilang Hot Shower, nauna sa pila si Grandfather!
Di nila alam, si Yaya Juday pala ang nasa shower!!
Wow sarap ng may Jitt Hot-Showirr!



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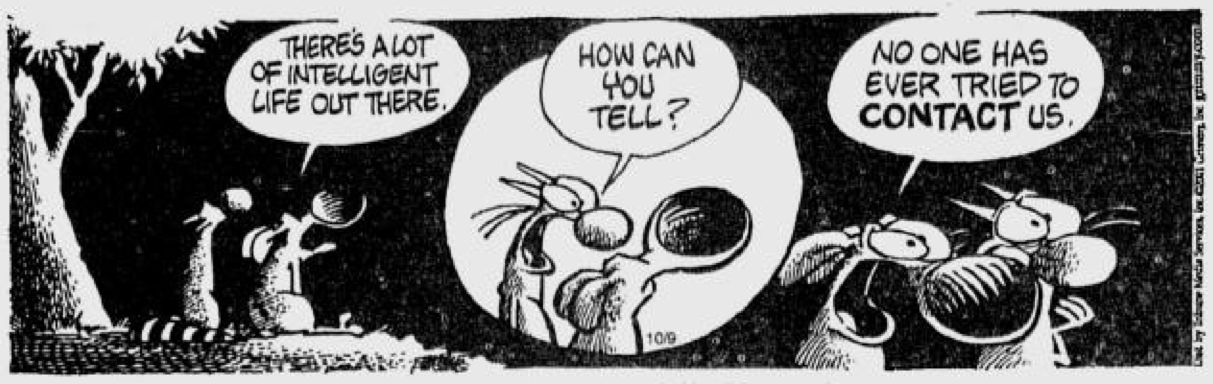
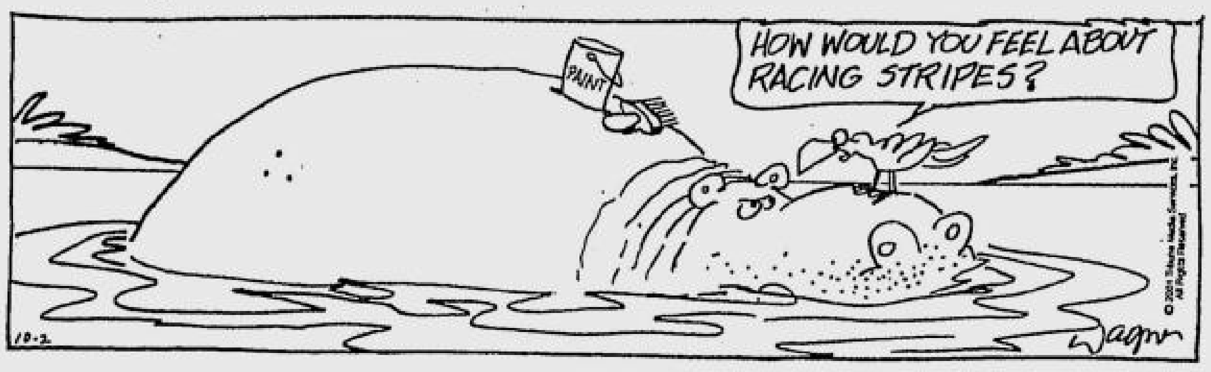
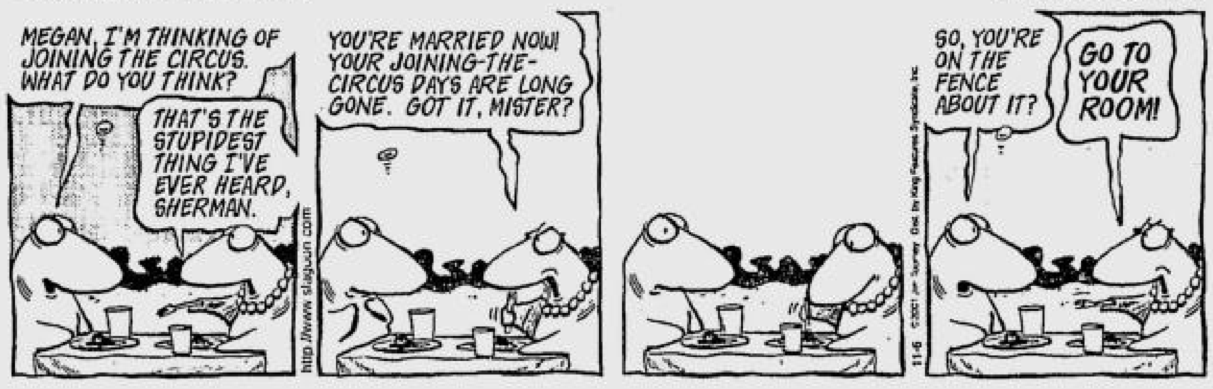
MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM BY MIKE PETERS


THERE'S A LOT OF INTELLIGENT LIFE OUT THERE.
HOW CAN YOU TELL?
NO ONE HAS EVER TRIED TO CONTACT US.
10/9

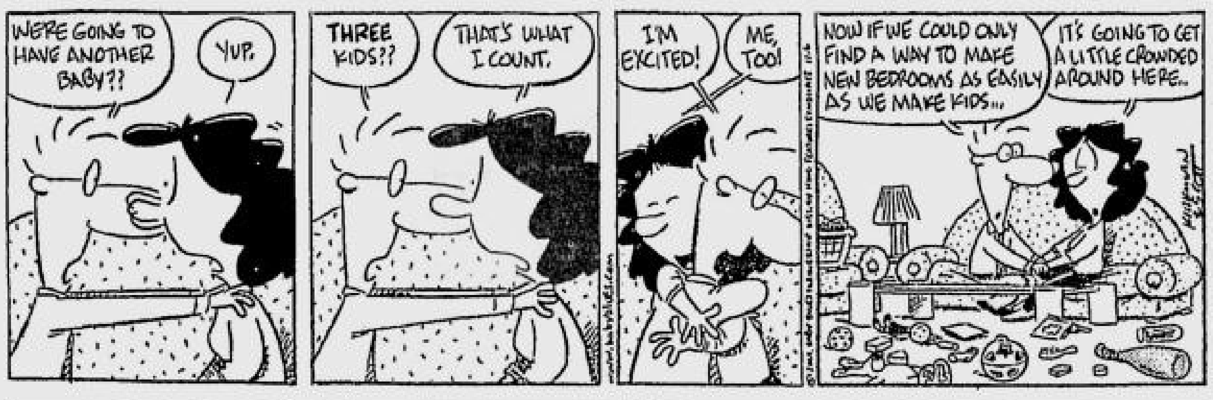
ANIMAL CRACKER BY FRED WAGNER


HOW WOULD YOU FEEL ABOUT RACING STRIPES?
PAINT
10-2
Wagner

SHERMAN'S LAGOON BY JIM TOOMEY


MEGAN, I'M THINKING OF JOINING THE CIRCUS. WHAT DO YOU THINK?
THAT'S THE STUPIDEST THING I'VE EVER HEARD, SHERMAN.
YOU'RE MARRIED NOW! YOUR JOINING-THE-CIRCUS DAYS ARE LONG GONE. GOT IT, MISTER?
SO, YOU'RE ON THE FENCE ABOUT IT?
GO TO YOUR ROOM!
http://www.slagoon.com
11-6

BABY BLUES BY JERRY SCOTT


WE'RE GOING TO HAVE ANOTHER BABY??
YUP.
THREE KIDS??
THAT'S WHAT I COUNT.
I'M EXCITED!
ME, TOO!
NOW IF WE COULD ONLY FIND A WAY TO MAKE NEW BEDROOMS AS EASILY AS WE MAKE KIDS...
IT'S GOING TO GET A LITTLE CROWDED AROUND HERE..

HOROSCOPE

BY EUGENIA LAST

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Sally Field, Maria Shriver, Mike Nichols, Ethan Hawke, Thandie Newton, Arturo Sandoval

Happy Birthday: You have numerous opportunities this year to reach the goals you have set. You'll be surprised at the help offered by those watching from the sidelines. Honor, dignity and integrity will put you one step closer to your dreams. Your numbers: 18, 23, 29, 34, 36, 41

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Your domestic scene may suffer if you demand your own way. Be willing to listen to loved ones. The requests that mean the most won't be that hard to meet.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Don't trust all your colleagues. Someone may be trying to undermine you. Be reticent about your goals to avoid opposition. You'll experience unavoidable delays and problems while traveling.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Be wary of joint investments, especially those involving family members. Don't lend or borrow money or possessions today. Problems with skin, bones or teeth should not be left unattended.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Look at your options carefully, and you'll pick a winner. Don't take too long to decide on a good financial investment.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): The most rewarding work is at home. Clean up and enjoy your surroundings. You need to rest more and regain strength.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Unreliable individuals may try to borrow money today. Offer advice, but not financial assistance. You're better off banking your money.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You will be in a do-gooder mood. Show concern and give helpful advice, but remember that not everyone will appreciate your kindness. You will be taken advantage of if you're too generous.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): You can't evade the issues with relatives or friends any longer. End your frustration. If you discuss the situation, you will fix it before it escalates into an irreversible problem.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): You have to take better care of yourself. Don't neglect minor health problems in the hopes that they'll go away. Take advantage of a great moneymaking opportunity, but do the research first.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Friends and family will read you better than you think. Being difficult to get along with will only make matters worse. You could probably use some time to yourself.

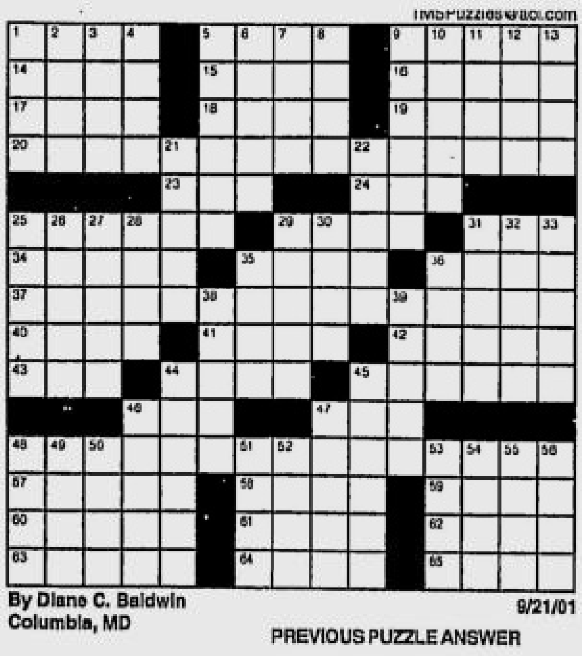
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Chill out and eat properly. Stress may cause minor stomach problems. Difficulties will develop with large organizations or institutions. Expect delays.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Turn your attention to pleasurable hobbies and creative endeavors. Teaching children some of the unique talents you've developed will do you a world of good.

Birthday Baby: You are one determined character. You are passionate about your life and your surroundings. You will always find a way to follow your dreams. Your unique style will attract attention.

DAILY CROSSWORD

TMSPuzzles@aol.com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By Diane C. Baldwin
Columbia, MD

9/21/01

ACROSS
1 Predicament
5 Takes to court
9 Rover's tormentors
14 Oxen hitch
15 Opposing
16 Jargon
17 Standard, briefly
18 Astronaut's drink
19 Fury
20 Cite reading?
23 Haw's partner
24 Director Howard
25 Muscle pull
29 Skunk's defense
31 Tango team
34 Prevarication
35 Pretty soon
36 Tiniest bit
37 Cautionary reading?
40 On one's __ (alert)
41 S.E. Asian country
42 Therefore
43 Wind up
44 Foot woe
45 Doughnut
46 Drench
47 Bounding main
48 Intuitive reading?
57 More coarse
58 Pardon me, less politely
59 Nitwit
60 Abraham's son
61 Turn soil
62 Nearly round
63 "Beau __"
64 Alone
65 Feeble

DOWN
1 Out of __ (discordant)
2 Milne's Winnie
3 Gumbo ingredient
4 Short-term worker
5 Smooth fabric
6 Render harmless
7 Sicilian volcano
8 Speak with one's hands
9 Identifiable taste
10 Flax product
11 M.I.T. grad
12 Drawn-out periods
13 Disgruntled
21 Drumstick attachment
22 Worker bee
25 List of candidates
26 Bridge support
27 Fit to be tied
28 Formicary residents
29 Edible bulb
30 Puts on
31 Use one's bean
32 Recoil
33 Web-footed mammal
35 Distant
36 Architect of St. Paul's
38 Avoid a church wedding
39 Ampoule
44 Use undue mental pressure
45 Befitting
46 Perspiration
47 Casing
48 Ship's jail
49 Facility
50 "Jabberwocky" start
51 Mil. alliance
52 Skimpy
53 Graven image
54 __ Scotia
55 Mild Dutch cheese
56 Flatfish

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

C	A	J	U	N		L	A	P	S	E		A	L	P
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A	L	L	A		C	A	R	L	O		O	P	E	N
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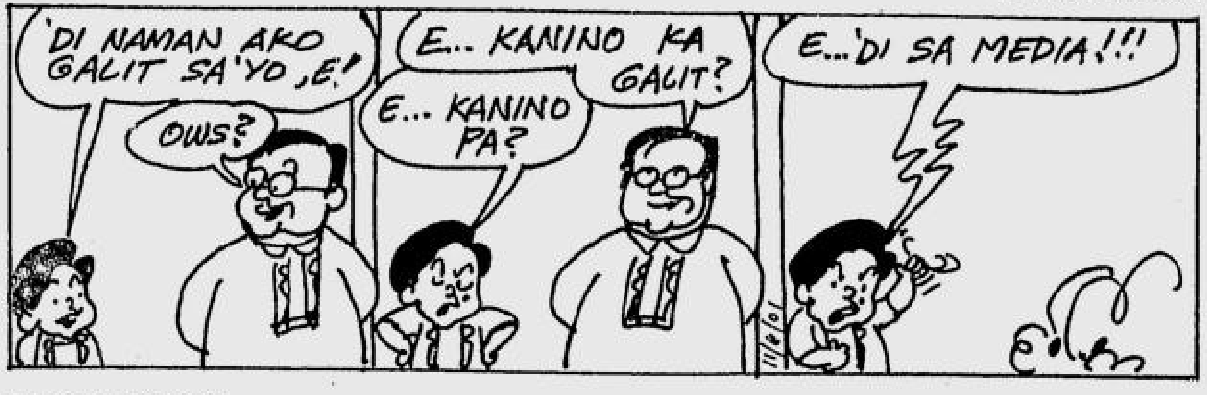
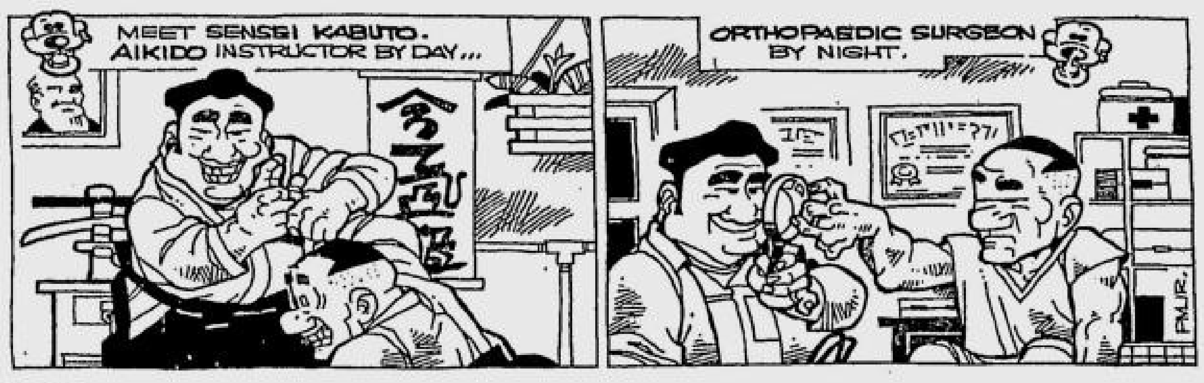
9/21/01

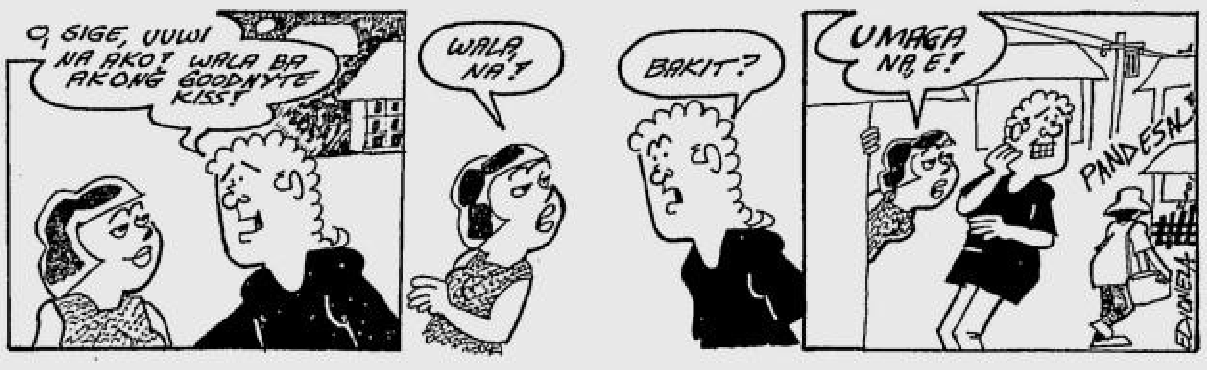
A. LIPIN BY JESS ABRERA


'DI NAMAN AKO GALIT SA'YO, E!
OWS?
E... KANINO KA GALIT?
E... KANINO PA?
E...'DI SA MEDIA!!!
11/6/01

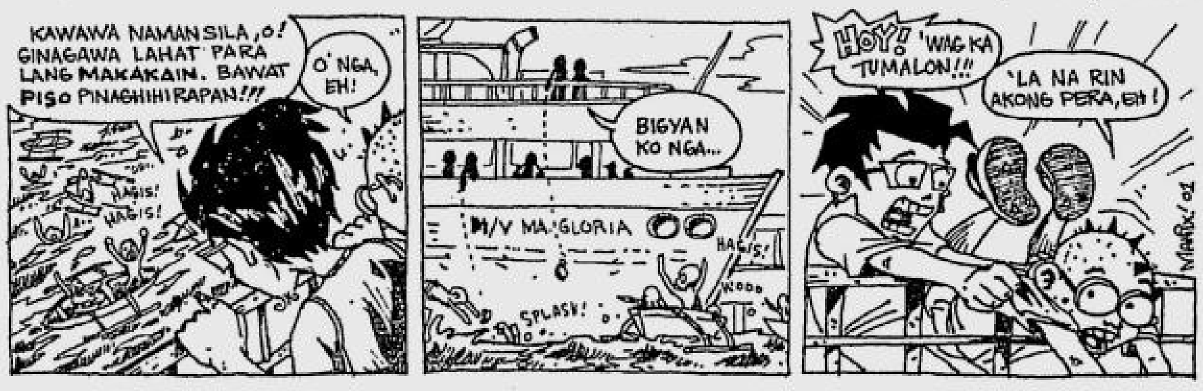
PUGAD BABOY BY P.M. JUNIOR


MEET SENSEI KABUTO. AIKIDO INSTRUCTOR BY DAY...
ORTHOPAEDIC SURGEON BY NIGHT.
PMJR.

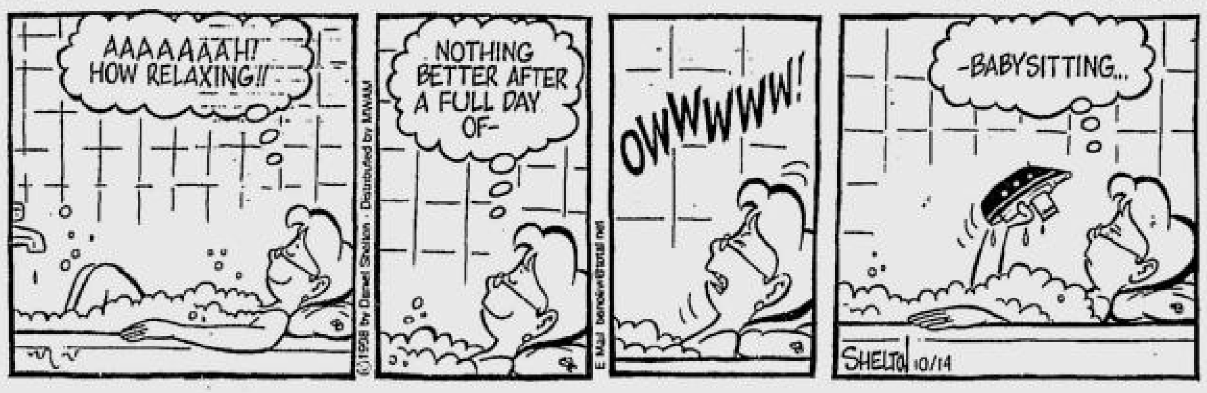
SIMO BY EDGAR DIONELA


O, SIGE, UUWI NA AKO! WALA BA AKONG GOODNYTE KISS!
WALA NA?
BAKIT?
UMAGA NA, E!
PANDESAL
DIONELA

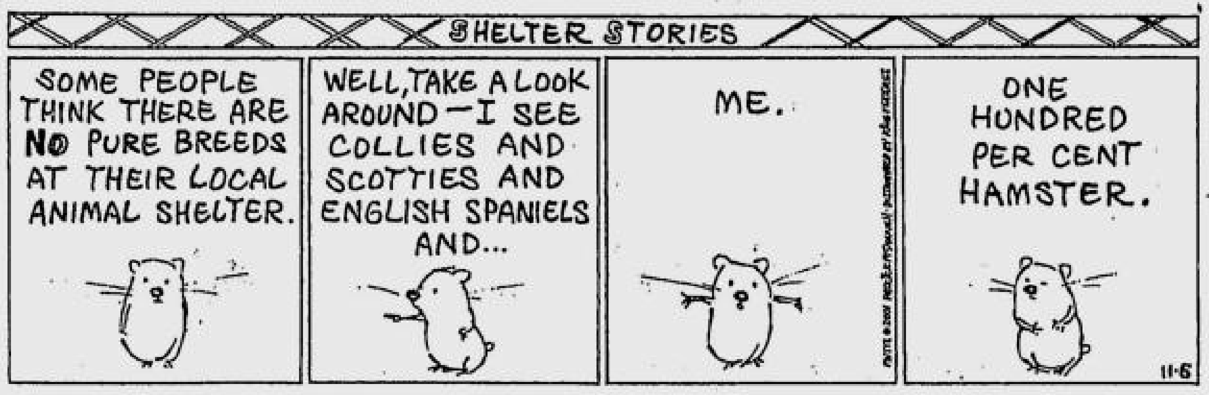
GARAPATA BLOOD BY JOHN PAUL/BENG/MANIX


KAWAWA NAMAN SILA, O! GINAGAWA LAHAT PARA LANG MAKAKAIN. BAWAT PISO PINAGHIHIRAPAN!!!
O' NGA, EH!
HAGIS!
HAGIS!
BIGYAN KO NGA...
M/V MA. GLORIA
HAGIS!
SPLASH!
HOY! 'WAG KA TUMALON!!!
'LA NA RIN AKONG PERA, EH!
MANIX '01

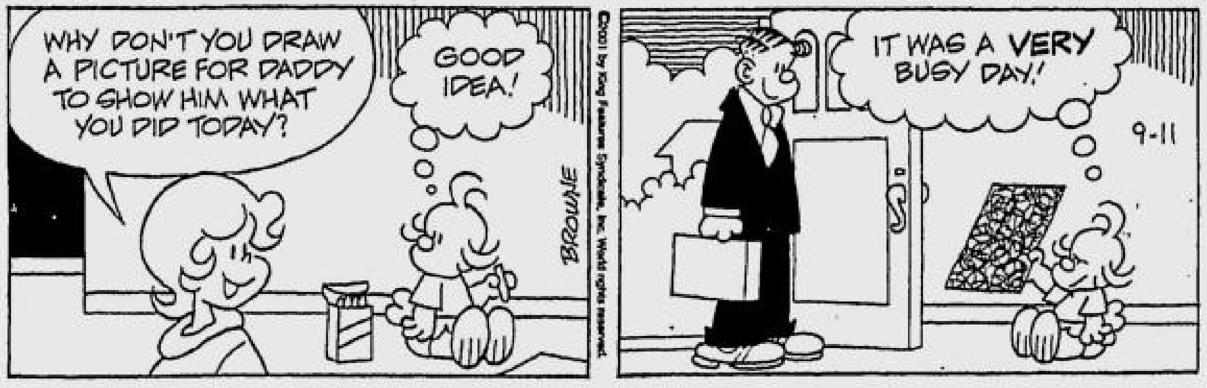
BEN BY DANIEL SHELTON


AAAAAAAH! HOW RELAXING!!
NOTHING BETTER AFTER A FULL DAY OF-
OWWWWW!
-BABYSITTING...
SHELTON 10/14

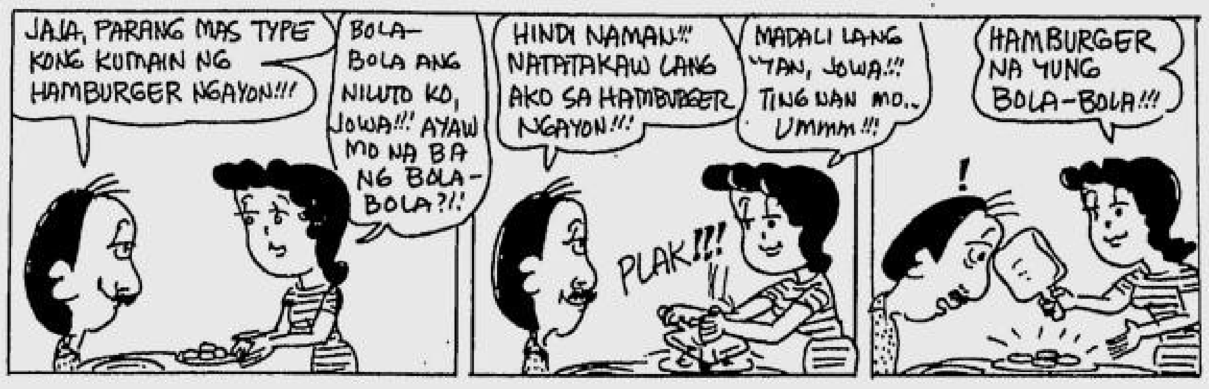
MUTTS BY PATRICK McDONNELL


SHELTER STORIES
SOME PEOPLE THINK THERE ARE NO PURE BREEDS AT THEIR LOCAL ANIMAL SHELTER.
WELL, TAKE A LOOK AROUND—I SEE COLLIES AND SCOTTIES AND ENGLISH SPANIELS AND...
ME.
ONE HUNDRED PER CENT HAMSTER.
11-6

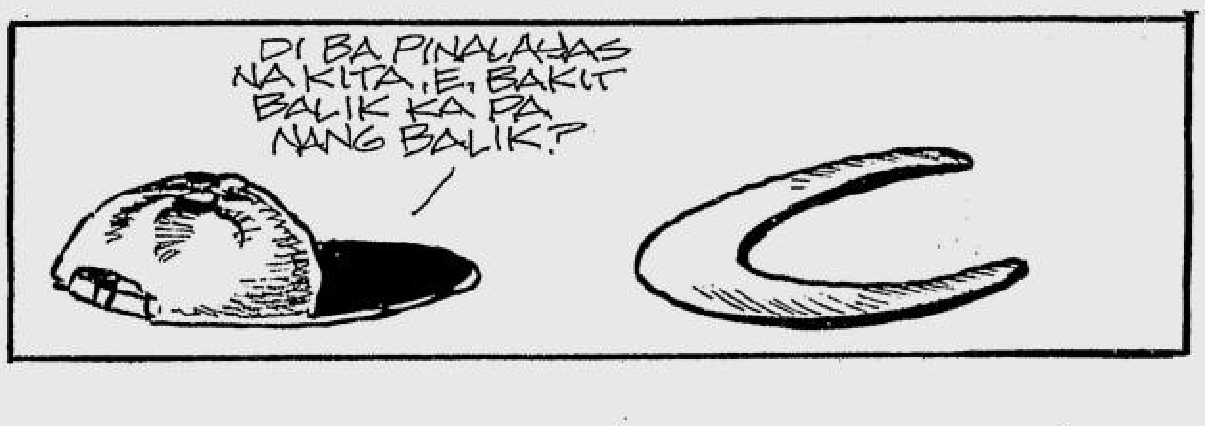
HI AND LOIS BY BRIAN & GREG WALKER


WHY DON'T YOU DRAW A PICTURE FOR DADDY TO SHOW HIM WHAT YOU DID TODAY?
GOOD IDEA!
BROWNE
IT WAS A VERY BUSY DAY!
9-11

LOVEKNOTS BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO


JAJA, PARANG MAS TYPE KONG KUMAIN NG HAMBURGER NGAYON!!!
BOLA-BOLA ANG NILUTO KO, JOWA!!! AYAW MO NA BA NG BOLA-BOLA?!!
HINDI NAMAN!!! NATATAKAW LANG AKO SA HAMBURGER NGAYON!!!
MADALI LANG 'YAN, JOWA!!! TINGNAN MO.. UMMM!!!
PLAK!!!
HAMBURGER NA YUNG BOLA-BOLA!!!

TULDOK BY PAPU & TATUM MILAMBILING


DI BA PINALAYAS NA KITA, E, BAKIT BALIK KA PA NANG BALIK?

Can we change the future?

INNER AWARENESS

Jaime T. Licauco

A READER named Marianne asks whether the future is fixed or if it can be changed. Here's her e-mail:

"I read your column on Oct. 17 where you wrote of Edgar Cayce's prediction. I feel bad. I know it's true. The world as we know it is ending. I look at the Makati skyline and tell myself I should enjoy this every day. This can change any minute and yet I know the only thing we have to fear is fear.

"Is the future already fixed, or is it just a matrix that we can change by changing our consciousness?

"As an amateur astrologer, I saw Princess Diana's chart as well as John F. Kennedy Jr.'s at the time of their deaths. It was very clear that death was indicated. If they had consulted an astrologer and just stayed home that day, could they have avoided the Grim Reaper?

"I have not been paying attention to my own chart lately, but reviewing it, it warned me that I would suffer the painful breakup of a friendship. It happened and it was totally avoidable. If only I had paid more careful attention!

"Are some things destined, like the World Trade Center tragedy in New York, while little things, like the breaking up of a friendship, avoidable? It seems the only safe place nowadays is within, and I'm still uncomfortable there."

You've asked a question that has been the subject of debates among philosophers and thinkers for thousands of years and up to now. There is no answer acceptable to everyone.

The Christian religion teaches that God gave man free will, which is so absolute that not even He Himself can break. Based on this philosophy, there is no such thing as predestination except what man himself has freely willed. In other words, everything that happens to us on earth is a result of our own free choice. And that presumably includes the hour of our death.

Note that in every tragedy, there are people who were not supposed to be there and yet chose to go there at the exact time that something terrible was about to happen, as if they came just to meet their deaths. Of course, all this happens in the subconscious level. The persons concerned are not aware, on a conscious level, that tragedy would happen. But subconsciously they know.

Some Eastern religions, on the other hand, believe that each individual on earth is given a fixed number of years to live. When that number is used up, he dies. As long as he still has years left, he won't die no matter what happens.

Some religious groups believe that their god sustains the world with his breath. These people practice slow breathing during deep meditation as their way to prolong life. Each breath taken is extended and the number of breaths per minute is reduced. If the major premise in this syllogism is true, then the conclusion necessarily follows: slow, rhythmic deep breathing prolongs life.

I tend to believe that there are cases where a tragic event can be prevented. This happens only when not all elements of that event on the spiritual or astral levels are completed. If the event depends on man's will to occur, we may still change the eventual or final outcome. However, if all the elements are completed on the higher planes of the astral and spiritual world, then there's nothing that can be done.

Let's illustrate this. The American psychic Edgar Cayce (who could see the human aura very clearly) was waiting for an elevator door of a building to open. When it did, he saw several people inside the elevator car. Instead of entering it, he stepped back and the elevator doors closed. Shortly afterward, the elevator crashed killing everyone inside.

When Cayce was asked how he knew that the elevator would crash, he replied that when the elevator doors opened, he saw that all the people inside had no more aura. Their life force was gone. In other words, they were already spiritually dead. Nothing could be done about it. And so, he simply let the event take place without interference from him.

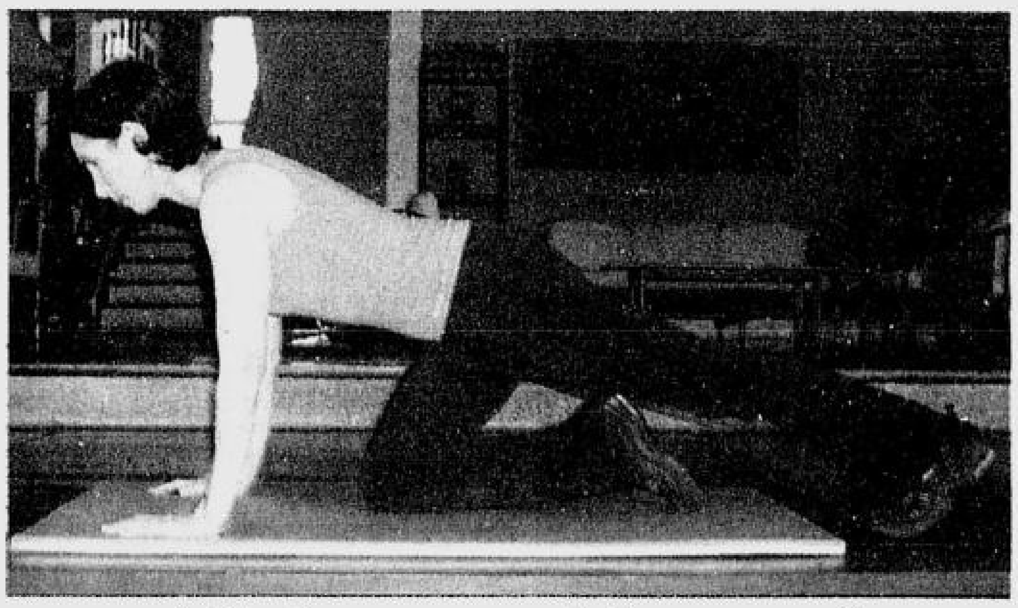
Actually there was nothing he could have done to prevent the tragedy. The people inside the elevator were already dead even before they hit the ground.

Do you think that if Cayce had told them to get out because the elevator would crash that they would do so? I doubt it. They probably would have thought Cayce was nuts.

You were actually right when you said, "It seems the only safe place is within." That's where the kingdom of God is, remember?

Send letters to 308 Prince Plaza I, 106 Legaspi St., Greenbelt, Makati City or e-mail jlicauco@geocities.com. Visit www.angelfire.com/journal/licauco. Listen to my dzMM radio program every Sunday, 6-8 p.m.

EXERCISE OF THE WEEK



All fours calf stretch

STRETCHES the calf or back of the lower leg.

Equipment:
Exercise mat

Exercise technique:

1. Get on your hands and knees making sure to keep hands and arms directly below your shoulders and knees slightly apart.
2. Take one leg back and flex the toes against the floor.
3. Press backward with your heel.
4. Hold for 10-15 seconds.
5. Do the other side.

Performance tips:

1. Keep your head in line with your spine instead of allowing it to hang down.
2. Pull your bellybutton to your spine to keep your back in proper alignment.

Asia-Pacific cancer conference set at PICC

THE 16TH Asia-Pacific Cancer Conference will be held in Manila Nov. 18-21 at the Philippine International Convention Center. Organized by the Philippine Cancer Society with other professional societies and agencies engaged in cancer prevention and control, the four-day conference will involve noted cancer specialists from India, Japan, New Zealand, Malaysia and the Philippines. The theme is "Fighting Cancer in the New Millennium."

Symposia on topics like cancer biology, cancer screening and prevention, and new technologies in oncology will be held. Noted oncologists of the different subspecialties will give lectures on individual cancer types. Research papers on the latest diagnostic and treatment modalities in cancer will also be presented.

The patron of the conference is President Macapagal-Arroyo and the honorary chair is Health Secretary Dr. Manuel Dayrit. The overall chair is Dr. Ernesto O. Domingo, a noted gastroenterologist. The cochair is Dr. Rainerio S. Abad, and the secretary general is Dr. Antonio Villalon.

The Asia-Pacific Cancer Conference is a major activity of the Asia and Pacific Federation of Organizations for Cancer Research and Control. It is held every two years to promote cancer consciousness and provide a forum for recent developments on cancer. Manila was the site of the 3rd APCC hosted by the Philippine Cancer Society in 1977 and from then on, subsequent conferences with various countries as host have created stronger links for the efforts to achieve better management of cancer.

Call 733-3485, telefax 735-2707, or e-mail 16apcc@pcsi.com.ph, or visit www.philcancer.org. The Philippine Cancer Society office is located at 310 San Rafael St., San Miguel, Manila.

New book for cancer patients

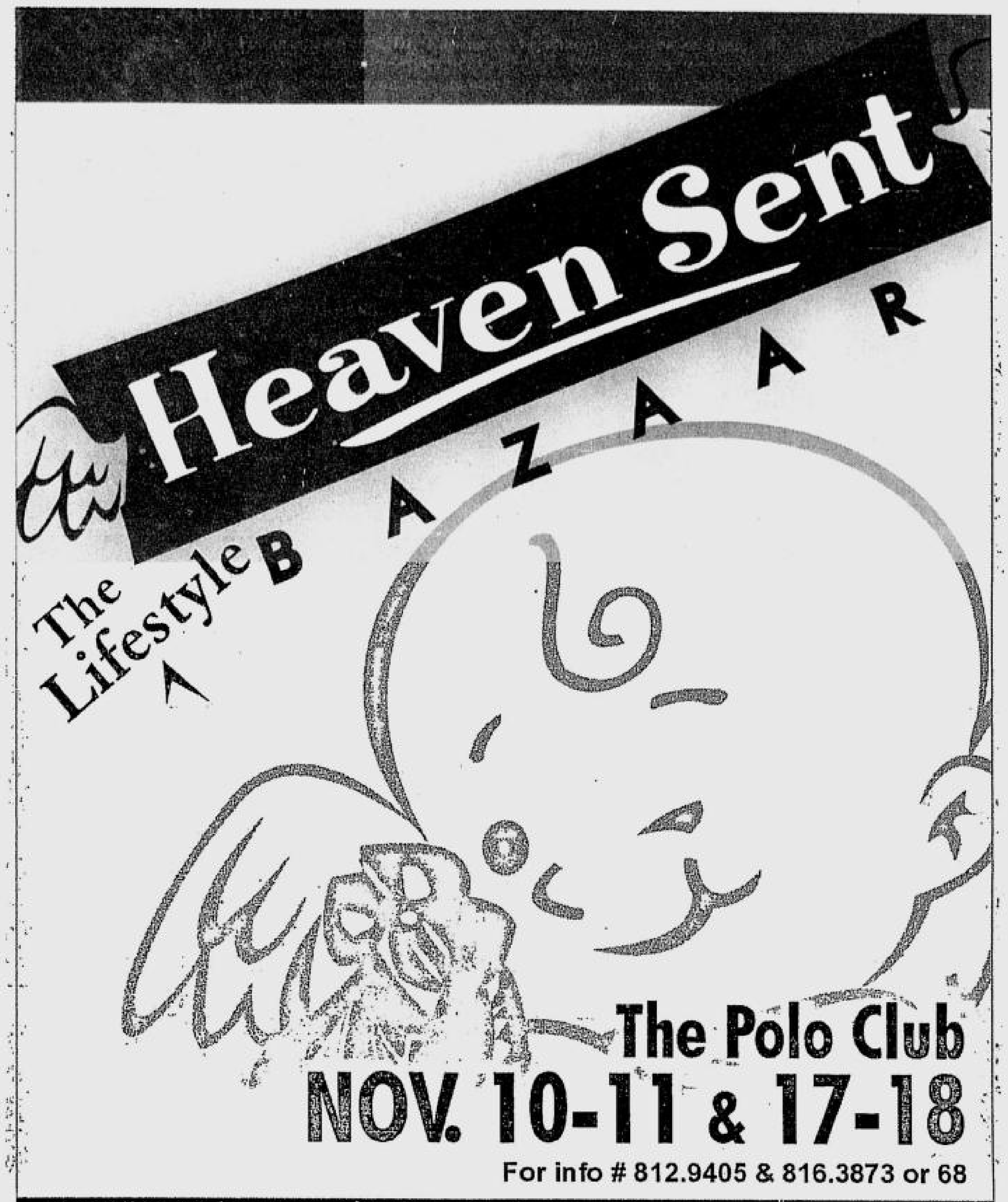
AMERICAN cancer expert Dr. Patrick Quillin's updated version of the book "Beating Cancer with Nutrition," is now out in the local market.

Quillin is director of nutrition for Cancer Treatment Centers of America, author of 15 nutrition-advocating books, selling more than one million copies of his bestseller "Beating Cancer with Nutrition."

In this new version, he shares his extensive experience in helping hundreds of cancer patients with a dietary nutrition program with valuable tips: why sugar feeds cancer and what to do about it; how certain vegetables have extraordinary anticancer properties; how nutrition can make medical therapy more toxic to the cancer and less toxic on the patient, plus vitamins, minerals, herbs, fatty acids, glandulars and food extracts that can be extremely valuable as supplements for the cancer patient.

According to Quillin, the book provides clinically proven and easy-to-follow strategies to dramatically improve cancer patients' quality and quantity of life, and improve their chances for a complete remission.

"Beating Cancer with Nutrition" is available at the Green and Gold International Exports office at 307 Solmac Building, 84 Dapitan corner Banawe, QC. Call 415-8714 or 781-0069/9370.



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Nicky S. Montoya, M.D.

MEDICard

Looking to learn more about your benefits under your MEDICard coverage? Do you want to be clear on the procedures, which allow you to avail of MEDICard's services? Get your information straight from MEDICard's Medical Director, DR. NICKY S. MONTOYA every Tuesday.

FAQs (frequently asked questions)

I recently gave birth to my first son. Can I enroll him as my dependent in my healthcare program?

Based on our standard HMO policy, dependent children are eligible for membership from 90 days of age up to 21 years. For group and corporate accounts, newly born children must be endorsed for enrollment to MEDICard within 30 days from date of birth, otherwise they may only be enrolled upon renewal of the healthcare agreement.

Meet your MEDICard Team

For over 14 years, **Dr. Edwina S. Fernandes** has been rendering MEDICard's unsurpassed quality in healthcare service to its members. Dr. Fernandes, frequently called "Tita Doc" by most of her close acquaintances, is based in Las Piñas Medical Center. Doc Edwina specializes in Pediatrics, where she received her residency training from UP-PGH. She is a Fellow to the Philippine Pediatric Society and a valued member of the Las Piñas Medical Society. Doc Tita's free time is spent on her favorite sport--swimming, reading and surfing the Internet. For your consultation needs, visit Dr. Edwina Fernandes at room 320 every Monday, and from Wednesdays to Saturdays, 3 to 5 in the afternoon.

New Corporate Member

Amalgamated Specialties Corporation (AMSPEC), the exclusive manufacturer of Mongol pencils and Crayola crayons, signed its healthcare agreement with MEDICard in a contract signing ceremony held last October 25 at Gerry's Grill, Makati City. (Seated from L to R) Dr. Nicky S. Montoya (MEDICard Medical Director), Dr. Nicanor D. Montoya (MEDICard President), Mr. Eliseo S. Laqui, Jr. (AMSPEC VP-Corporate Affairs/Treasurer) and Mr. Edmundo M. Centeno (AMSPEC Finance Manager); (Standing from L to R) Mr. Voltaire R. Victoria (MEDICard Marketing and Sales Manager), Ms. Leah S. Karasig (MEDICard Account Manager), Ms. Leonarda L. Francisco (AMSPEC HR Manager), Ms. Rose R. Abundo (Comptroller, WM. H. Rennolds, Co. Inc.), Ms. Myra A. Magpayo (AMSPEC Company Nurse) and Ms. Gisela P. Evangelista (AMSPEC HRD Supervisor)

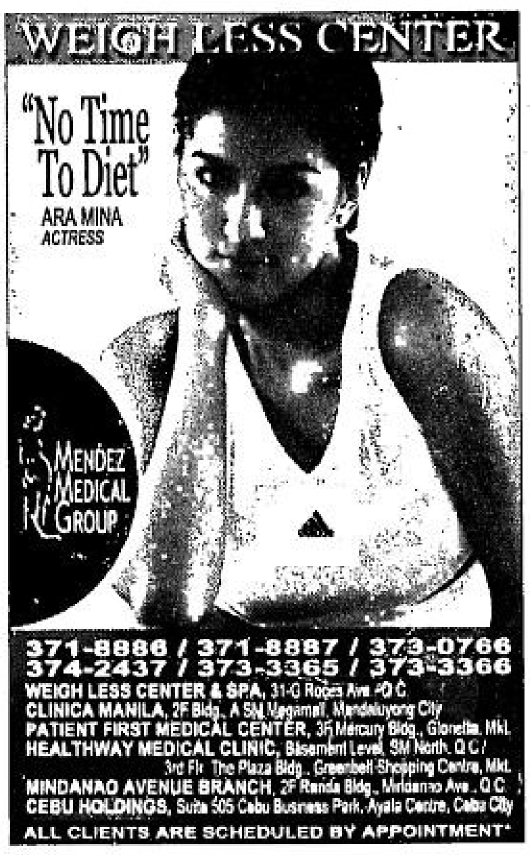
We encourage all MEDICard members to voice out their concerns and issues at hand. BE HEARD AND BE READ. You can write DR. NICKY S. MONTOYA at 9/F Sagittarius Bldg. H.V. De la Costa St., Salcedo Village, Makati City or e-mail him at inquiry@medicardphils.com.

For individual or family membership inquiries, please call 818-2161 and look for Ms. Joy Mendiola. For group or corporate membership, please call 817-5136, 817-4985 or 817-5127 and look for a membership consultant.

TEXT MEDICard for your queries: 0917-7518365 (Globe) or 0919-2476240 (Smart). Please don't forget to include your complete name and landline number where MEDICard could reach you. ***Log on to www.medicardphils.com***

MEDICard is the first and only HMO in the Philippines and the whole Asian region to be ISO 9002 certified.

ISO 9002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ARIVA WATER HEATERS

WINNERS ALL. Danny Katalbas, grand champion Gloria Katipunan, Reynaldo Mercado and Victor Ortega with model Jackie Cartasano

A Filipina bags grand prize in international hair tilt

FOR HAIRSTYLIST and beauty expert Gloria Katipunan, there's no such thing as a bad hair day.

When she went to Bangkok, Thailand to compete last week as one of the four Filipino delegates to the prestigious Pantene International Hair and Makeup Competition at the posh Le Royal Meridien Hotel, Katipunan, a 42-year-old mother of four, came out of the contest without a strand of her hair out of place.

She was declared grand champion, beating about 250 delegates from 12 countries, placing in all three categories she joined—bridal makeup, ladies' evening hairstyle and fantasy hairstyle. The other categories were ladies' haircut and blow dry, gents' haircut and blow dry, and nail art.

But Katipunan admits that facing beauty experts and hairstylists from Asia Pacific could be a hair-raising experience.

"It was tough," she says. "They were all so good, so creative. I had to outdo myself."

Bagging $2,000 and a trophy, the owner of a Manila salon bearing her name and secretary of Hairdressers and Cosmetologists Association of the Philippines (Hacap) since 1998, is no stranger to competitions. Last year, she was overall champion in the professional division of the Hair and Makeup Trends in Manila and the Queen's Cup Sixth Hair World Festival in Thailand in 1999.

Splitting hair honors with Katipunan were the three other members of the Philippine contingent, none of whom came home empty-handed from the annual hair event. One country sent as many as 80 delegates.

Danny Katalbas, 32, won the top prize in the fantasy hairstyle category. While he has won several local and international awards in Manila, like the championship in the 1998 Hairdresser Day Competition, Hacap's 1997 Hairdresser and Makeup Competition and the 1991 World Competition, this was the first time he competed outside the country.

"Like Pantene, we professional hairstylists are on a constant search for perfection," Katalbas says. "We innovate, choose from among the latest beauty and hair-care products. So far, Pantene's line of hair-care products has proven the most effective in giving women the end-look that they want for their hair."

Hong Kong-trained hairstylist Reynaldo Mercado, 39, won fourth place in the bridal makeup category. He has won in similar competitions and was official makeup artist of local and international beauty contests held in Manila; including Miss Universe '94, Miss Asia Pacific '88 and Supermodel '88.

A veteran of international hair competitions and creative director of Emphasis at the Rockwell Center in Makati, Victor Ortega placed second in the ladies' evening hairstyle competition. He was champion in the bridal makeup competition of the World Millennium Championship in Sydney, Australia and a Hall of Fame awardee of the Philippine Hairstylists Association. He was also the Philippine representative to the Asian Hairdressers Competition in Malaysia, Hair World Championship in Berlin, and Salon International in London.

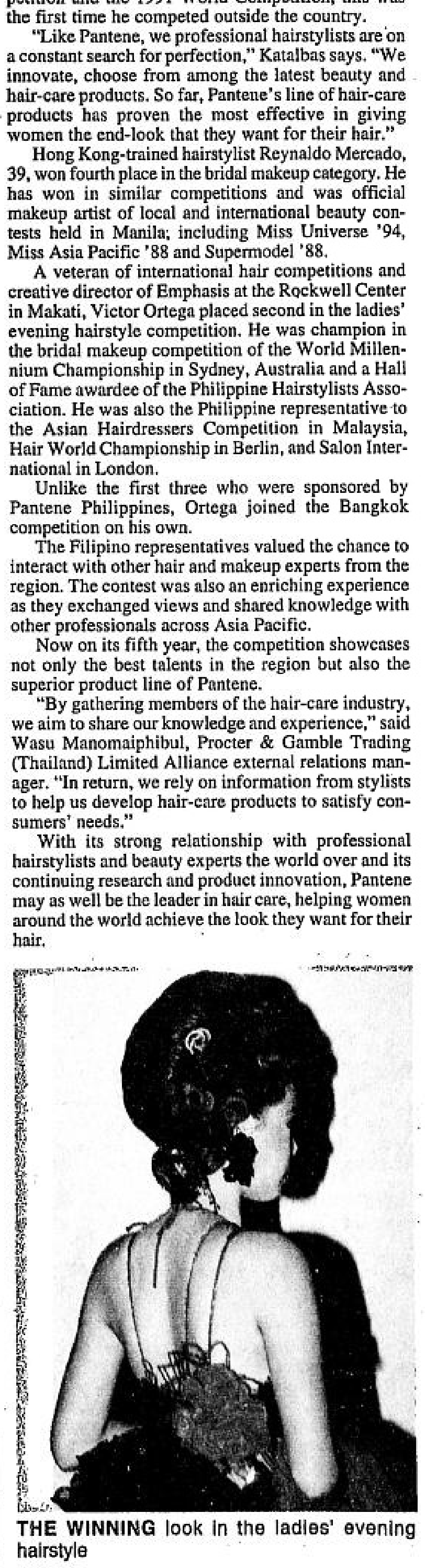
Unlike the first three who were sponsored by Pantene Philippines, Ortega joined the Bangkok competition on his own.

The Filipino representatives valued the chance to interact with other hair and makeup experts from the region. The contest was also an enriching experience as they exchanged views and shared knowledge with other professionals across Asia Pacific.

Now on its fifth year, the competition showcases not only the best talents in the region but also the superior product line of Pantene.

"By gathering members of the hair-care industry, we aim to share our knowledge and experience," said Wasu Manomaiphibul, Procter & Gamble Trading (Thailand) Limited Alliance external relations manager. "In return, we rely on information from stylists to help us develop hair-care products to satisfy consumers' needs."

With its strong relationship with professional hairstylists and beauty experts the world over and its continuing research and product innovation, Pantene may as well be the leader in hair care, helping women around the world achieve the look they want for their hair.



THE WINNING look in the ladies' evening hairstyle

Bilis patak, Bilis patay ang
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New Tioconazole Trosyd Lotion
sa presyong patak-patak.
Tioconazole
Trosyd
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Hindi kasing mahal ng ibang 5 gram antifungal creams. Konting patak lang, bilis-patay ang an-an, buni, athlete's foot at had-had. At dahil lotion, it spreads easily and vanishes quickly. With the same potent formula that's also available in cream.
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NOVEMBER 2001

INQUIRER Golf Monthly

Get A Grip On The Game

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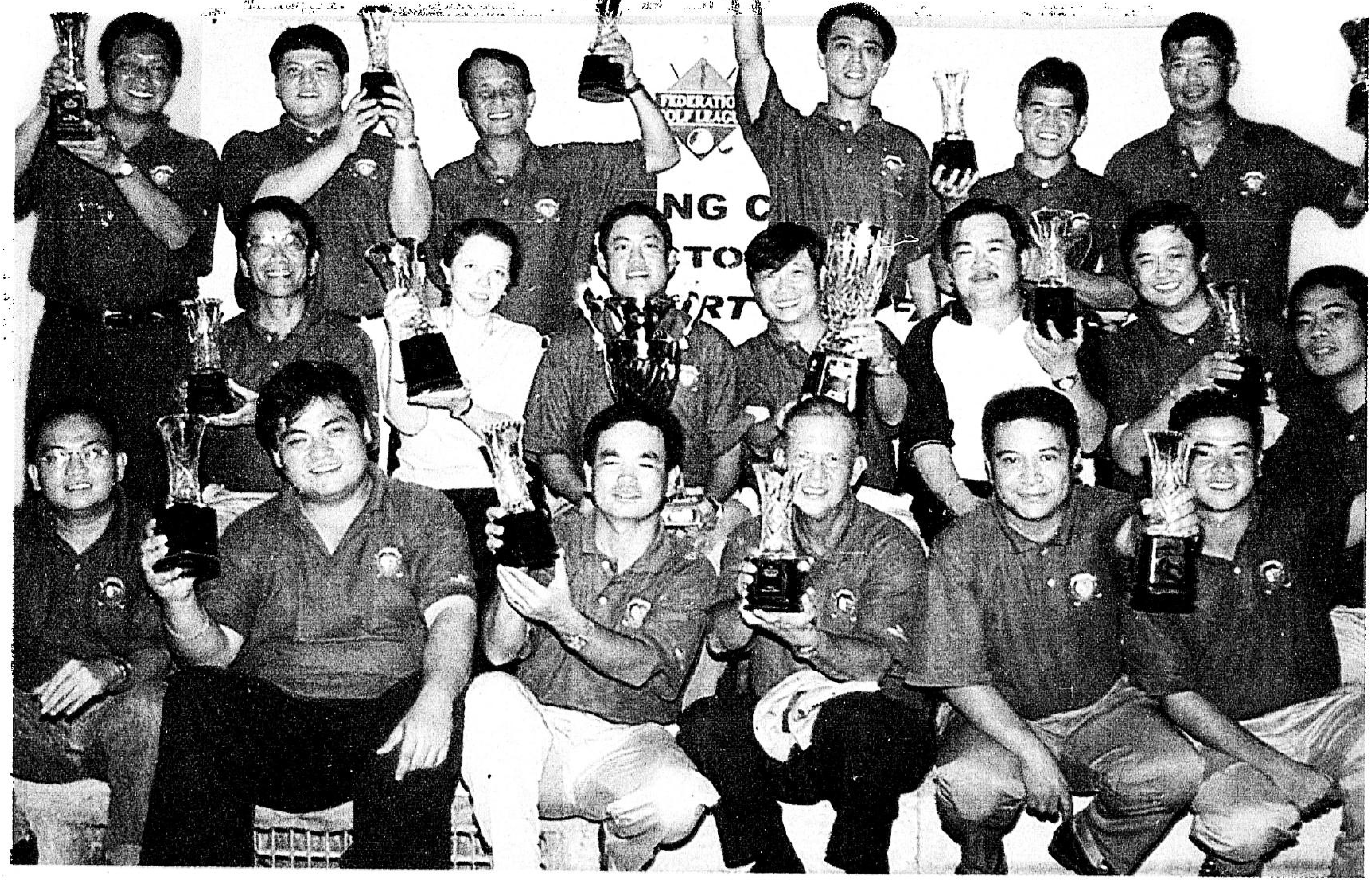
FOR SUBSCRIBERS IN
METRO MANILA

ALFIE'S ARMY

Forest Hills wrests Fed League crown from Wack Wack


FEDERATION
GOLF LEAGUE

Forest is Fed League's best

By Roy Luarca

FGCPI chair Romy Laig (right) hands over the Fed League Trophy to Forest Hills general manager Vic de Guzman

EITHER the Forest Hills golfers really felt his presence or they were merely motivated by their desire to give him a fitting tribute. Instead of sulking and grieving the untimely demise of Alfie Almario, his teammates turned it into a positive, lethal force in the home-and-away finale.

Drawing motivation and inspiration from Almario's memory as an unbeaten, spirited campaigner, Forest Hills stunned Wack Wack in sudden-death to claim the Federation League championship recently.

That they did it when their top gun was gone could only be attributed to the Forest Hills' players' faith that Almario was watching over them when the going was getting rougher and tougher.

"I think everything was made by special design. There were so many breaks that went our way and I would like to believe that Alfie helped us make it happen," said Vic Guzman of Forest Hills.

Bobby Ysip and Florene delos Santos could only agree as they delivered the killer blows in the pressure-laden playoff.

According to Ysip and Delos Santos, they merely touched the black pins on their chest whenever confronted with a precarious position and everything just turned out right. As if Almario, who died at 37 following a heart attack last month, was there to guide them.

Delos Santos made regulation par while Ysip settled for a bogey to ensure their victory over Wack Wack's Marlon Dizon, who had a bogey, and Rep. James Duavit, who faltered with a five-on double bogey at hole No. 1 of the Forest Hills Golf and Country Club in Antipolo.

No wonder, when Wack Wack non-playing team captain Gerard Cantada had conceded the playoff and the title, the Forest Hills bets celebrated right there at greenside, chanting Alfie! Alfie!

They have every reason to be happy for it was a hard-earned, sweaty victory.

First, they have to go through the quarterfinals after being stalled by Eastridge.

Second, they have to pass through the strong Manila Golf and Country Club team in the round of eight to forge a semis duel with outright qualifier Alabang.

Third, they have to rebound from a 3-1 beating they absorbed from the defending champions when they visited Wack Wack in the first phase of the finals a week earlier.

Fourth, Wack Wack led 2-1 after the first three matches and was ahead by one when its high-low pair of Kit Lopez and Elphege Wong teed off on No. 18.

Again, fate or whatever unseen force intervened.

Wong stumbled with a double bogey from the right bunker and Lopez narrowly missed what could have been the winning birdie from six feet, enabling Vic Cordero and Ronnie Littaua to knot the count at 2-2, give Forest a 2.5-1.5 victory and force the playoff.

Like Forest Hills, Wack Wack came from the lower rung but entered the finals the favorite after ousting eliminations topnotcher Southwoods with a couple of 3-1 victories.

Other members of Forest Hills, which made it to the finals for the first time after a four-year campaign, were Ferdie Atendido, Raffy Garcia, Jong Laput, Larry Patnogon, Joey Ramoso and Celestino Lee.

The team felt that with Alfie gone, the Most Valuable Player was to be won by the next best performing member which was Celestino Lee.

They were proven wrong as the tournament committee handed the award to the man it felt was the most deserving who was Almario himself. And also in recognition of Almario's contribution to the growth of the Fed League, the MVP trophy was named after him.

And fittingly, the first to win it was a teammate. The Forest Hills players are rightfully Alfie's Army.

MRS. Alfie Almario receives the MVP trophy from FGCPI president Ogie Manalo.

PHOTOS/ROMY HOMILLADA

Senior Care Classic

A FIELD of no less than 120 players is taking a crack at the five division titles and the numerous tournament and raffle prizes up for grabs in the Federation of Golf Clubs Philippines Inc. inaugural Senior Care Fellowship Golf Classic set Nov. 5 at the Sta. Elena Golf Club course.

Lawyer Joe B. Abejo, chair of the FGCPI Senior Care program, gladly announced that cardholders have given their all-out support for the launching edition of what is touted to become the biggest event in their calendar.

Topping the list of prizes are a Northwest Airlines business class ticket to any city in the United States, P100,000 worth of local travel packages and a Weinstein Piano which will be up for grabs as hole-in-one prizes.

Former Rep. Gilberto Duavit as major backer, Philippine Airlines which is giving away two business class tickets to Hong Kong, Ford Phils., the Philippine Sports Commission, San Miguel Corp. and Custom Clubmakers, Citra Tollways, PX Wines and Golf and Nivea are coming in as donors.

The event is open to players 55 and above.

Participants will be vying for the top awards in five different age-groups. Those 55-59 years old will play in the Classic division, 60-64 Elite, 65-59 Statesmen, 70 and above Vintage and Reynas for ladies program.

Rey Adriano, president of the Puerto Azul Golf and Country club and chair of the tournament committee, said that most of the Federation of Golf Clubs Philippines' Inc. members are represented.

Format is Modified Stableford with full handicap and blind partnership (names of each team to be drawn on tournament day).

TOURNAMENT SKED

November 5
SENIOR CARE CLASSIC
Sta. Elena

November 6
MUNTINLUPA MAYOR'S CUP
Alabang CC

November 7
SOBREPEÑA CUP
Southwoods Legends

November 8
NBI DIRECTORS CUP
Southwoods Legends

November 9
PAL MABUHAY CLASSIC
Eagle Ridge Faldo course

November 8-10
STA. LUCIA TOUR
Rancho Palos Verdes (Davao)

November 9
UP QUAD CHALLENGE
Capitol Hills

November 10-11
FIL-ESTATE GOODWILL CUP
Manila Southwoods

November 13-17
UBIX NATIONAL PRO-AM
Riviera GCC

November 12, 19
GRAND INTERVILLAGE FINALS
Wack Wack west

November 13
PCCI 3rd Businessmen's Cup
Wack Wack west course

November 13
PAYATAS FUND-RAISER
Alabang CC

November 16
10th NORTHWEST CARGO INVITATIONAL
Manila Southwoods

November 18
MONTHLY TOURNAMENT
Manila Southwoods

November 19
10th ARCHITECT'S CLASSIC
Sta. Elena

November 20
SAN BEDA LAW
Manila Southwoods

November 23-24
5th FOUNDER'S CUP
Orchard GCC

November 22-25
ACCI 20th ANNIVERSARY CUP
Alabang CC

November 24
HK-SW INTERPORT
Manila Southwoods

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like your golf
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September 29-30	Canlubang Golf and Country Club
October 4-5	Villamor Golf and Country Club
October 13-14	Mikaza Driving Range
October 20-21	The Orchard Golf and Country Club
October 27-28	Riviera Golf and Country Club
November 3-4	Wack Wack Golf and Country Club
November 10-11	Royale Maru Driving Range
November 17-18	Kagitingan Driving Range
November 24-25	Sherwood Golf and Country Club
December 1-2	Power Golf Driving Range
December 8-9	South Point Driving Range

GOLF SHOPS	
September 17-22	PRO GOLF Shangri-La Plaza
September 24-29	Golf Depot Makati
October 1-6	PAC Sports Makati
October 8-13	Nevada Bob's Alabang
October 15-20	Pro Gear Makati
October 22-27	PRO GOLF Makati
October 29 - November 3	Golf Depot San Juan
November 5-10	PAC Sports Wack Wack
November 12-17	Nevada Bob's Makati
November 19-24	PRO GOLF Alabang
November 26 - December 1	Golf Depot Alabang
December 3-9	PAC Sports Festival Mall

THE 6th PHILIPPINE INT'L. GOLF SHOW	
October 5-7	SM MegaTrade Hall 2 SM Megamall, Mandaluyong

GRAND RAFFLE DRAW	
December 14	TaylorMade adidas Office Emerald Avenue, Ortigas Center

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See posters for promo details.

Promo duration is from September 14-December 9, 2001
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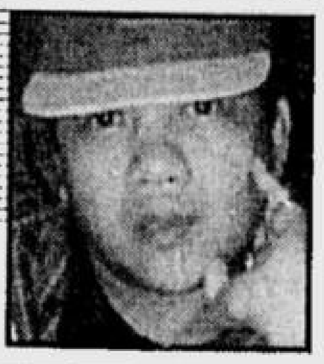
U-BIX Pro-Am

TRUE GRIP



Al S. Mendoza

ONE of the country's most cherished golf traditions is the Boni Pro-Am. Born in 1958, the one-ball, two-some format had its last gasp in 1995. The much-admired event got overrun by industrialization with the killing of the Ft. Bonifacio golf club to give way to The Fort, a symbol of global trade, inside the military camp.

But mourn no more, fellas. The Pro-Am will be revived when the U-BIX Riviera Pro-Am Golf Championship gets going at the Riviera's Langer in Silang, Cavite, days from now. Tournament dates are Nov. 14-17. The Celebrity Pro-Am will be held on Nov. 13.

The best-selling Toyota Altis will be staked as a hole-in-one prize.

No less than the country's Top 80 pros will be paired with many single-digit amateurs, including members of the national golf training pool.

We can expect high-caliber golf for four days as the unique format of the tournament promises killing suspense up to the last putt. Twosomes will hit shots alternately over 18 holes and teamwork is a premium if victory is to be desired.

Revived will be the glory days of the event when the legendary Ben Arda won six Pro-Ams, four of them in tandem with Simplicio Taguiam, the ever-smiling, likeable personal secretary of the late President Marcos.

* * *

Deserving of our commendation is Bert Bravo, now a famed restaurateur (Caffe Appassionato and Bel-Air Bakery along N. Garcia St. in Makati City), who chiefly bankrolled the U-BIX Pro-Am. Bert, whose Pivo Praha beer brewery from the Czech Republic is also now a favorite among Makati's beer cognoscentis, shelled out no less than P1 million for the tournament in tandem with Konica Corporation's Teruo Kanazawa.

"Just the thought of reviving a beautiful tournament already makes my heart jump with joy," said Bert. "Making our pros happy with the little money that we can toss in on their behalf is a bonus."

What a man. Already, Bert has staged four Konica U-BIX Opens beginning with the one at Manila Golf Club in 1995. In 1997, he shouldered the U-BIX Philippine Open at Wack Wack.

* * *

To put a dash of drama to the tournament and upon the instigation of Benny Gopez, the Bravo Cup, a sterling silver custom-made in Hong Kong, will serve as a symbol of achievement for the winning team.

The prize distribution will be channeled down to the 50th place in the no-cutoff tournament.

And, of course, I also raise a glass to Comm. Danny Pizarro, president of host Riviera, for accepting the challenging post as chair of the organizing committee.

* * *

May I also congratulate my kabaleyan Sam Esguerra, whose resiliency and perseverance will see him stage the 10th edition of the Architects Golf Classic on Nov. 19 at Sta. Elena, chosen golf course of the year for 2000.

INQUIRER Golf

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Breaking the Fil-Am, Tradition

EDITOR'S NOTE

Jong R. Arcano

PEOPLE close to Tommy Manotoc say he will not be in the Fil-Am championships in Baguio next month. They also go as far as saying that the event's record holder of individual titles will never be in the Fil-Am again.

Apparently, the pain of last year's tear-jerking experience, where his Canlubang gang camouflaged in Calatagan uniforms suffered badly from the quirks of disorganization, still lingers.

And as of presstime, nobody can just make Manotoc change his mind. The same goes with the members of the vaunted Canlubang stable who, because of last year's incident, may have set an unwritten rule not to play for any team in the Fil-Am.

Not even the change in management of the tournament affairs where two noted event managers and a computer company for the big scale scoring were hired can appease them.

As if the absence of Manotoc and his teammates is not enough, another major, multi-club tournament set in the same week as the Fil-Am, The Tradition, has drawn a lot of the name players from the Baguio bash including the Wack Wack Brat Pack which had to pullout despite having its entry fee cheque sent early.

So what is now becoming clear is that the Manotoc case has thrust the Fil-Am and the Tradition to a situation where loyalties and even friendships are being tested.

There are four founding members of the Tradition: Canlubang, Luisita, Sta. Elena and Manila Southwoods.

It is apparent that Southwoods which is being run by the same Fil-Estate company that now operates one of the Fil-Am venues(John Hay) is feeling the squeeze since the three other clubs share some key personalities while Southwoods does not.

Whether some clubs are ganging up on the Fil-Am for last year's big snafu is already a given.

The bigger issue is whether the two events can still be held in separate dates in the future for both to be more exciting and competitive.

The Fil-Am may not suffer in participation since it is even returning wads of entry cheques to so many foreign and local teams. But what is a Fil-Am without a tight fight in the championship division?

Praiseworthy as it may seem, the Tradition's claim to "purity" with a once-a-year event that doesn't have anything to do with major raffles can be severely affected by mafia-oriented decisions like a club needing to be asked by another not to join the Fil-Am.

As it is already bad enough for us to have two conflicting jungolf bodies, two senior organizations going after each other's necks and a national golf association bugged by so many uncooperative clubs, this idea of having two important events in the same week can only widen the cracks of disunity.

The Fil-Am and the Tradition have their own respective designs anyway so something must be done to break them apart.

Goodbye Col. Andolong

Up to his recent death, Col. Nereo Andolong had shown his love and care for golf by reminding his most trusted ally Tony Fernando not to give up on looking for potential sponsors to his Philippine Masters brainchild.

Absurd as it may sound, the continuation of the Masters was a death wish for the well-known colonel who passed away at the age of 74.

I have been sounded off to help put up a Memorial event for Col. Andolong, my wedding godfather. I will instead issue a plea to the leadership of the Philippine Air Force and the Villamor Golf Club to consider a simplified version of the Masters this December.

Like the Philippine Open, the Masters is an institution in local golf. And for Villamor top brass to at least try to continue with a tradition started by Andolong will be a laudable gesture if only to recognize his contributions to the club and Philippine sports as a whole.

On Higher Plane

DIVOTS

Arsenic Laurel

THE 2001 Federation Golf League has come to a close. There is a new champion team, FOREST HILLS. They unseated year 2000 champion WACK WACK via a sudden-death match in the aggregate score format after both teams ended their championship series (home and away) all square. The sidelights and highlights of the matches tell the story of an epic battle of worthy knights. Forest Hills, quarterfinalists over the last three years playing purposefully for the memory of their team mate Alfie Almario, and Wack Wack squared off on the second day in Forest Hills with Wack Wack leading after winning at home on the first day, 3 matches to 1. As a win is equivalent to 2 points, Forest Hills needed to beat Wack Wack in their backyard to force a sudden-death match while all Wack Wack needed was a draw or to win two matches out of four to retain the championship.

The drama of the championship between two powerhouse teams was further heightened by the match play format. Match play is the bloodiest form of golf. The pressure is of entirely different a nature as is tennis, basketball or soccer or even chess. There are no madly cheering fans screaming for you to miss your shot, no opponents waving their arms, slamming their bodies to yours, while trash talking you. You call a referee only if you can't settle a dispute between yourselves. In golf, the ball doesn't move without you, the hole is defenseless to your attack except for what the course designer put in. And when you execute a shot, you can take your time, select your club, seek advice from your caddy or captain (in team computation) or partner. And golf etiquette gives you SILENCE and STILLNESS when you play a shot – all the ingredients for a successful shot execution right? Of course, there are added factors such as wind, lie of the ball, slope of the fairway for added PRESSURE in a tightly contested match. The pressure is unrelenting and comes from everywhere; your mind a consistent opponent, unfamiliar territory, an unconvincing caddy . . . . and it doesn't go away unless one of you gives in or allows the other to dominate.

There are many who resort to gamesmanship for an advantage but in a match of peers such as that between Forest Hills and Wack Wack, it was going to be decided by SKILL and HEART.

This story will begin on the second hole of the third match which was the aggregate format the team of Ronnie Littaua/Vic Cordero was playing against Kit Lopez/Elphege Wong of Wack Wack. On the second hole, the match was still tied. Elphege's ball found the hazard and had to play a shot of over 200 yards. He asked his caddy to bring his long iron, and fairway woods. When his caddy came with his clubs to the surprise of the Forest Hills team, he declared that he was carrying 15 clubs, one more than the limit. In his case, it was a sidelined 3 iron that stayed in his bag. His team from all square went 2 down.

As if replaying a familiar scene, a DE JAVU for Wack Wack, the fourth match where Bobby Ysip/Florene de los Santos played Tetu Santos/Taira Takanobu, their player Taira also declared carrying 15 clubs. This declaration came on the fourth hole with Wack Wack two down in the match suddenly finding themselves four down after the penalty.

What appears as amazing to a non-golfer is the readiness and willingness of the erring players to call in the penalties upon themselves in a championship match. Golfers expect this from their ilk; just the same, it is impressive and inspiring to hear about such honesty and courage. That in the second day of the championship HONOR & PRIDE played beside SKILL and HEART, all characteristics of CHAMPIONS. To my mind both teams are worthy champions. Just think what a better world we would have if the values we stand by in golf we applied in our daily affairs.

You may reach the author at lcl1 @itextron.com for your comment.

Riviera board revamp

THERE are makings of a military takeover at the Riviera Golf Club Inc.

It seems that as heads of the AFP cannot solve the problems with the Abu Sayyaf, they are turning their special attention toward the Riviera which has been operating in peace and quiet all these years.

Earlier this year, Riviera held its first stockholders meeting during which nine directors were duly elected. However, since then, the AFP, thru AFP-RSBS which holds the majority of shares in Riviera, have replaced three of these incumbent directors with three retired generals, two of whom are PMA classmates of the current Chief of Staff.

An e-mail sent to the IGM is implying that Riviera, which has been consistently ranked in the top 3 golf clubs in the PDI Club of the Year, will have further military action in its boardroom. The active chiefs of the Army, Airforce and Navy apparently want to replace three more incumbent directors.

Meanwhile, another classmate of the AFP chief, Gen. Roberto Santiago has taken over as the new manager of the Aguinaldo Golf Club.

No end to Orchard woes

TOM Clemente's latest brush with the idiosyncrasies of law has drawn nothing but sympathy from members and officials of both the Orchard Golf and Country Club and Sta. Lucia Realty.

It was obvious that the instigator of the incident wanted to humiliate not just the Orchard GM but even the top brass of realty firm as the arresting officers— who were in plain clothes —since they tried to book Clemente just when Orchard was busy hosting one of its biggest tournaments this year, the second leg of the popular Sta. Lucia Tour.

Now, the big bosses of Sta. Lucia have reportedly said enough is enough and they're out to take on the so-called "Tyranny of the minority" headache with their own vast resources and influence.

Meanwhile, the member who got expelled by board after being found guilty of beating up a fellow Korean member is back in the premises of the club, no thanks to a Temporary Restraining Order issued by a Cavite court.

Concerned members are saying that it is so unfortunate efforts by management to put some semblance of peace and order in their own backyard are being put to waste by the swift action of a Cavite court favoring a golfer with an inclination for violence.

Only in the Philippines.

Monkey search

LIKE the allied forces in search of the Talibans, the grounds staff of Wack Wack are now in search of two elusive monkeys which are remnants of the original group given the freedom to roam around the tree clumps on course years ago.

Reports have it that the monkeys' Wack Wack vacation was cut short when the very rich but not so famous residents living in the borders of the club complained of seeing the creatures trespassing into their property, made worse by a pervert who just love to run after women.

There is no word whether the pervert monkey was among those who had been donated to the zoos by Wack Wack. Not until the remaining two fall into the trap, the grounds staff may have to advise their lady members and guests not to get too sexy.

Or else.

Can't say no to Reyno

THE impasse between the Manila Golf Club and its union may have found a savior in lawyer Alfonso Reyno Jr.

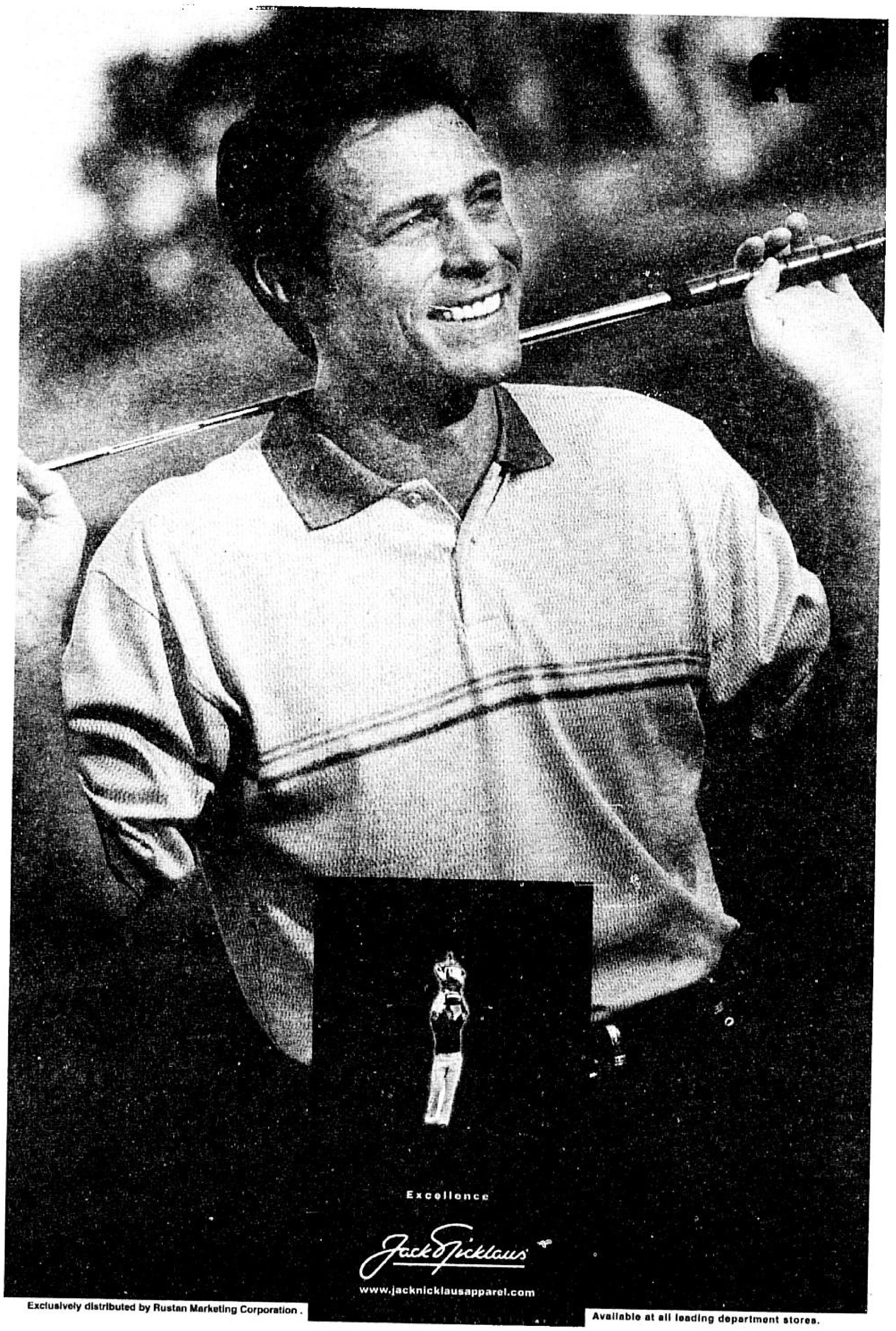
Reyno is said to be close to settling the long-standing wage dispute and the union seems inclined to take the ride offered by the man tracing the destiny of local horseracing.

In his most recent meeting with union officers, Reyno convinced them to accept a package which is two times more than what management offered originally and get the operations of the club in smooth sailing again.

CLUBHOUSE TALK

Club triangle

ACCORDING to the grapevine, two clubs are going after the same person to become its general manager. The in-demand person has had meetings with the top officials of both clubs and is deciding on the best offer.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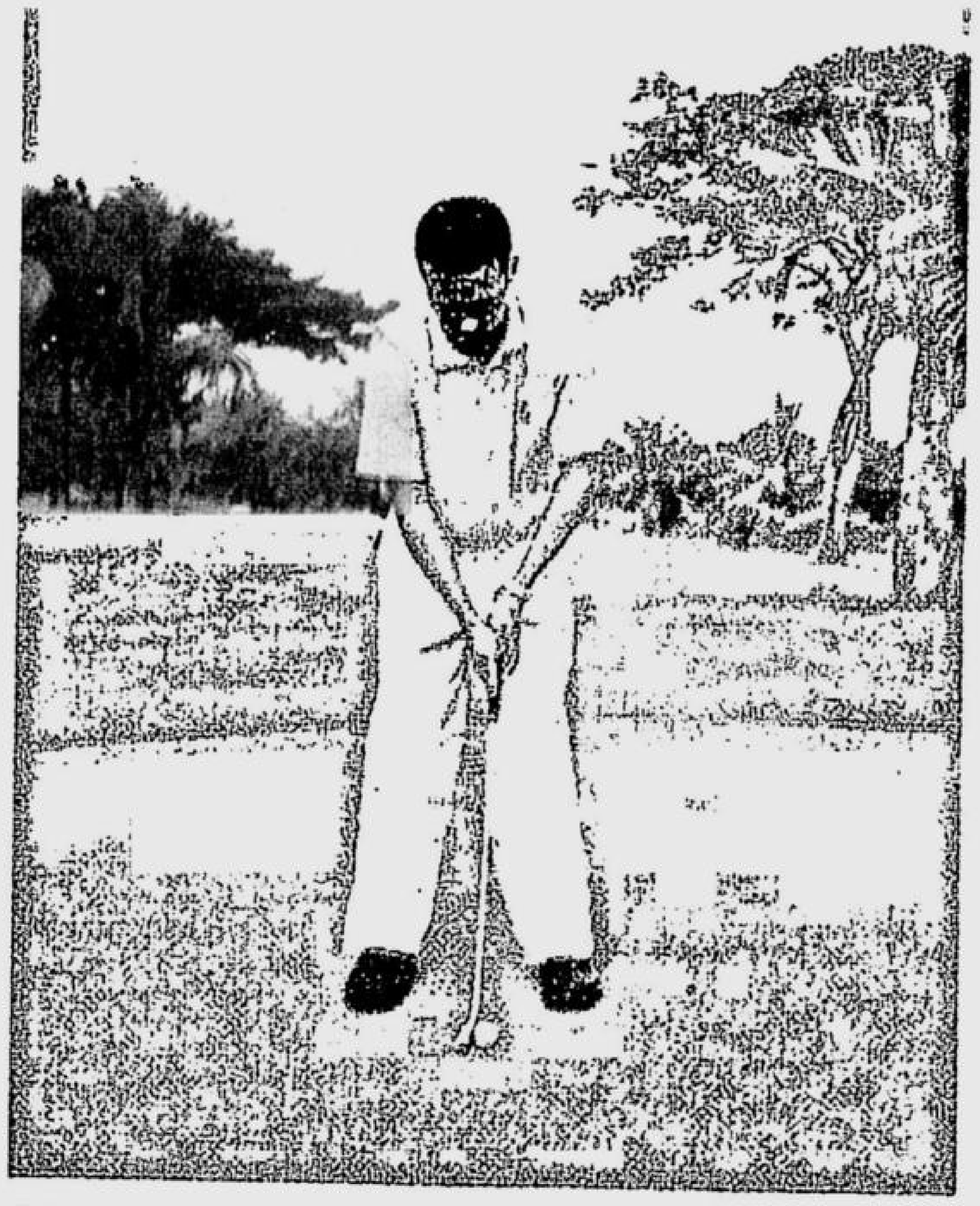
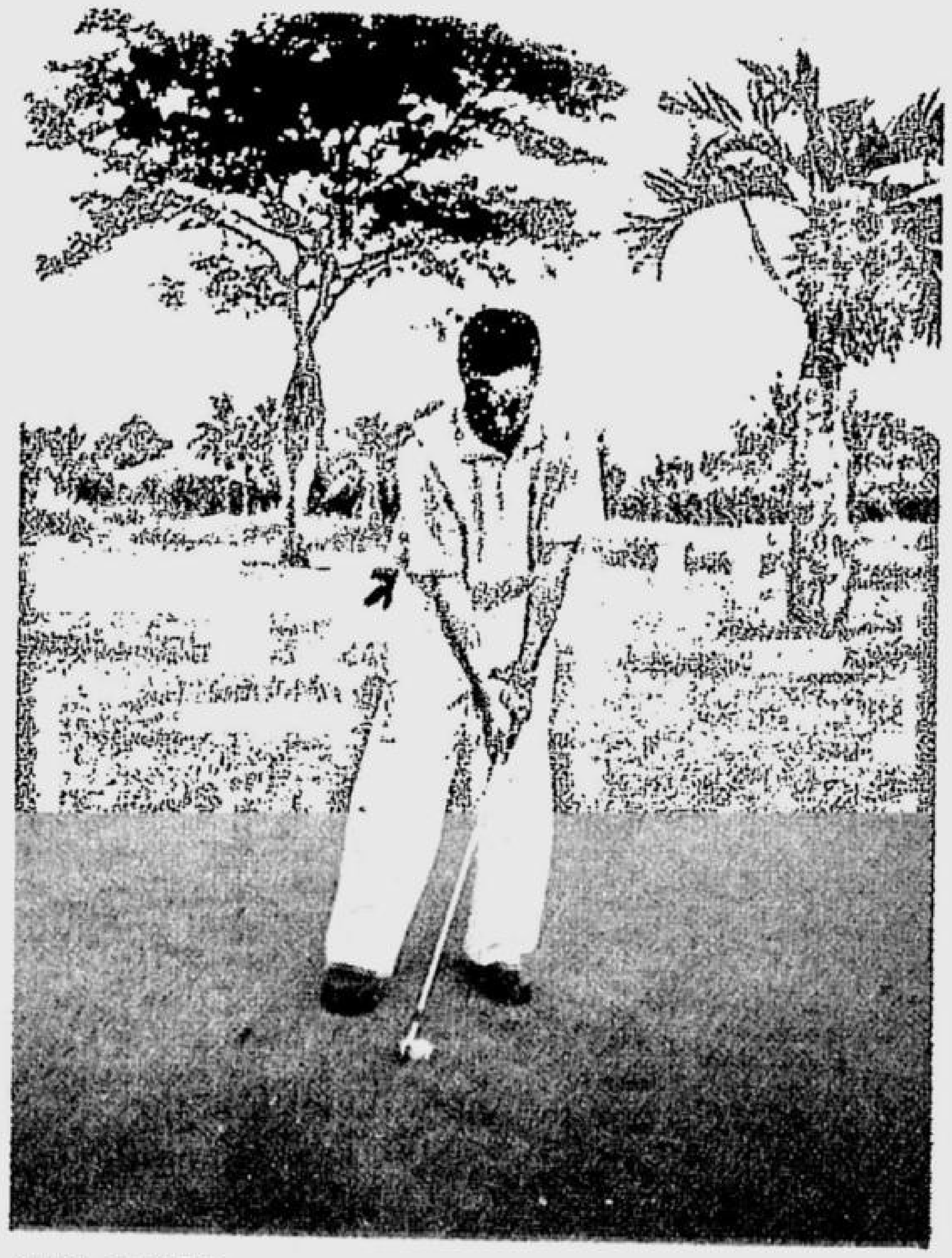
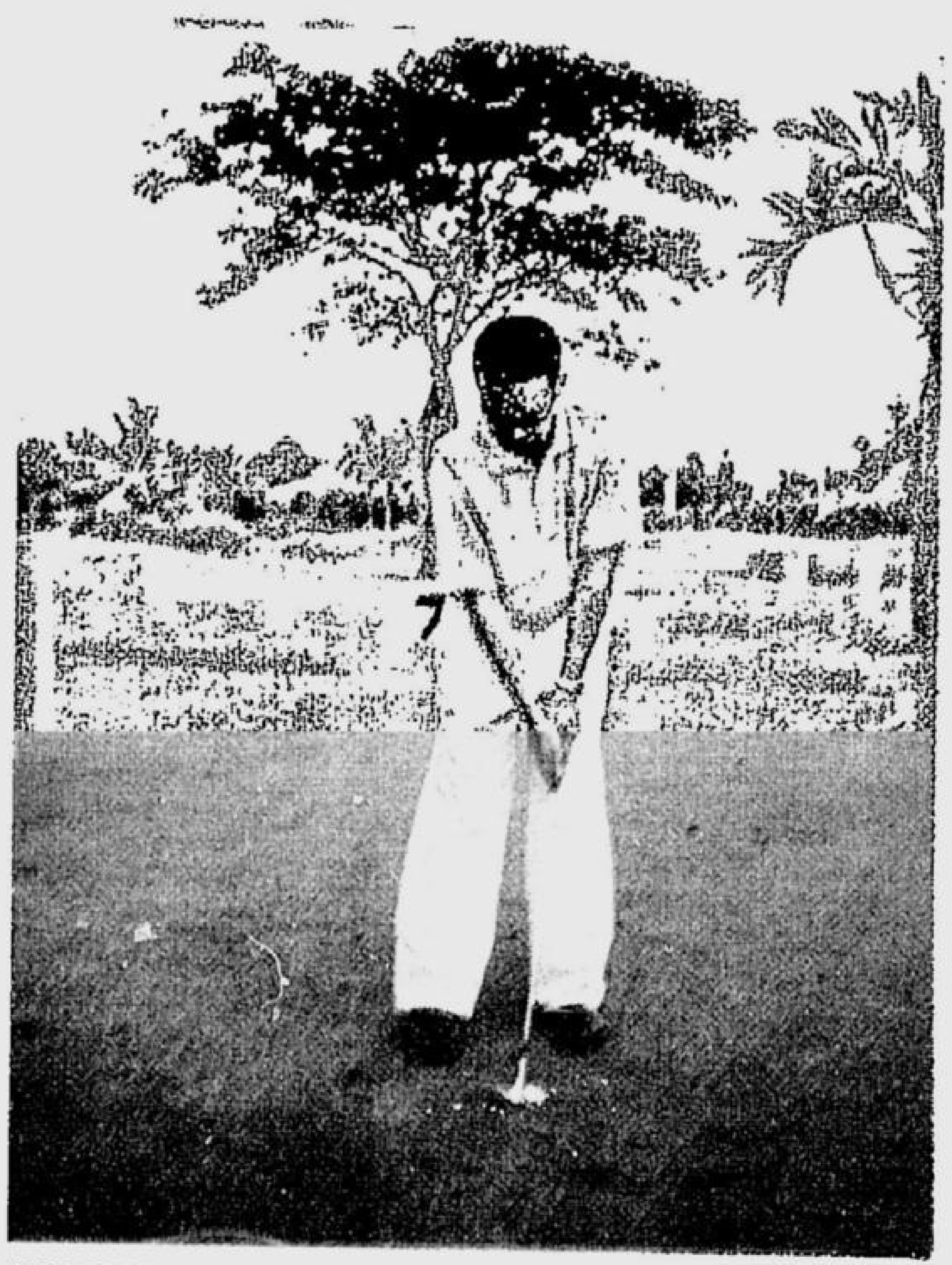


PUTTING
The key word for putting is CENTER
When you putt, everything should be centered; the putter head and ball, hands, weight, and head. Always use a pendulum stroke and since we don't change the club, we use different length of swings to vary distance.



CHIPPING
The key words for chipping is LEANING LEFT
When you chip, you should feel that you are leaning left; 70% of your weight is on the left foot, hands are way ahead of the ball, head is in front of the ball while keeping the ball between right foot and belt buckle. Always use a pendulum stroke and since we want to keep the swing short, we change clubs to vary distance.



PITCHING
The key words for pitching is SLIGHTLY LEFT
When you pitch, everything is slightly left of center, the clubhead and ball, hands, weight (60% on the left foot) and head position. Always use a pendulum swing and since we only use the lofted clubs for this shot we use different length of swings to vary distance.

SET-UP IS EVERYTHING

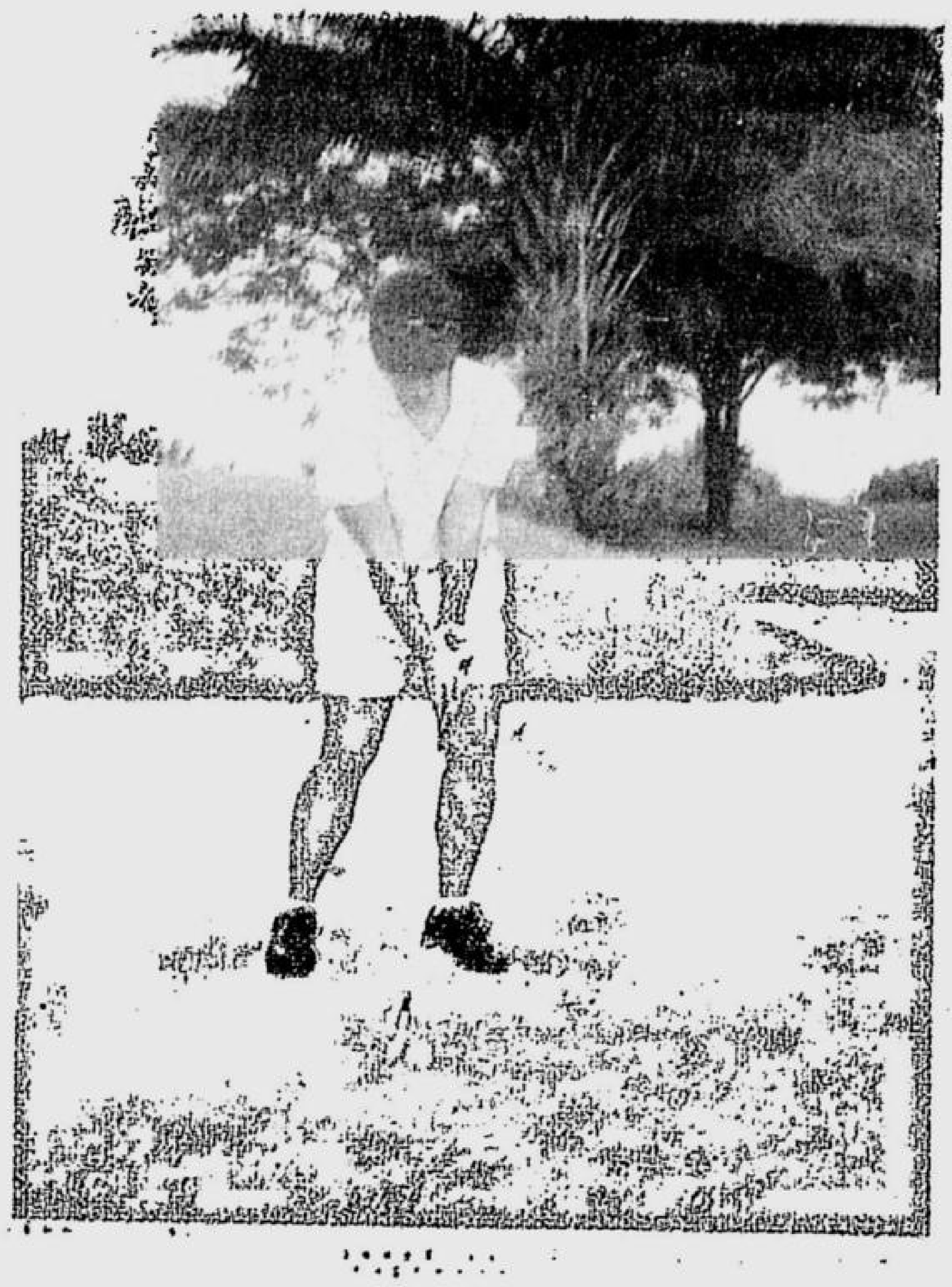
EVERYTIME I give short game lessons at Manila Southwoods Golf Club, 90% of my students get surprised when they find out that setting up correctly for the different shots around the green is the secret to executing these shots.

Most of the time, what they think they have to do to pull the shot off is the exact opposite of the proper way to do it.

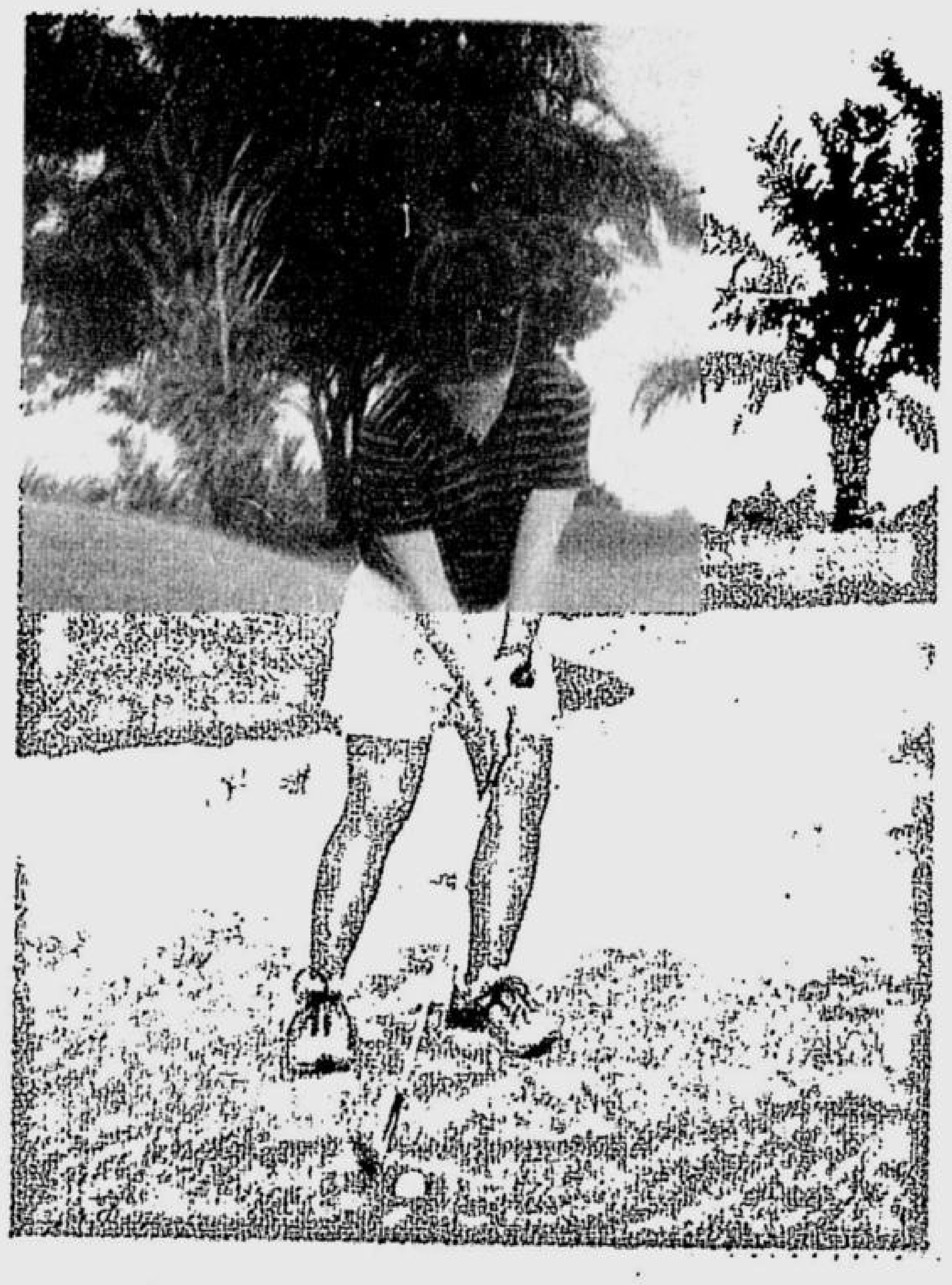
With the help of The Golf Authority's newest instructor, Chucho Martinez, I will help you set-up correctly for your short game shots.

SWING ANALYSIS

Bong Lopez



BUNKER SHOT (perfect lie)
Tracy Locsin demonstrates that when you have a perfect lie in the bunker, using the sand wedge you use your pitching set-up to execute the shot. Of course since we do not want club and ball contact, we use a longer swing to get the ball out.



BUNKER SHOT (buried lie)
Lora Roberto demonstrates that when you have a buried lie in the bunker, using the sand wedge you use your chipping set-up to execute the shot. When you lean left, your club can dig into the sand, get underneath the ball and get it out. The more the ball is buried in the sand, the longer the swing to get it out.

I end my short game lessons by saying that 75% of short game is set-up. When you set-up correctly, it is so easy to execute the shot. The other 25% is knowing how to control the distance of your shot. The earlier you understand and feel that the club should swing like a pendulum, the faster you improve and perfect your game.

RETIEF GOOSEN

New King of Europe

SOUTH AFRICAN Retief Goosen clinched the European Order of Merit when he captured the $1.26 million Madrid Open in a playoff over England's Steve Webster after the two men tied at 264 (20 under).

On the third playoff hole, the 32-year-old Goosen ran in a 3-meter (10-foot) putt for birdie on the par-3 17th as Webster could only par from the greenside fringe.

The South African led by one shot on the last hole of regulation play, but was bunkered in a right greenside trap.

The ball was below his feet and he thinned it 6 meters (20 feet) past the hole and two-putted for bogey as Webster parred to draw level and send the two men into overtime.

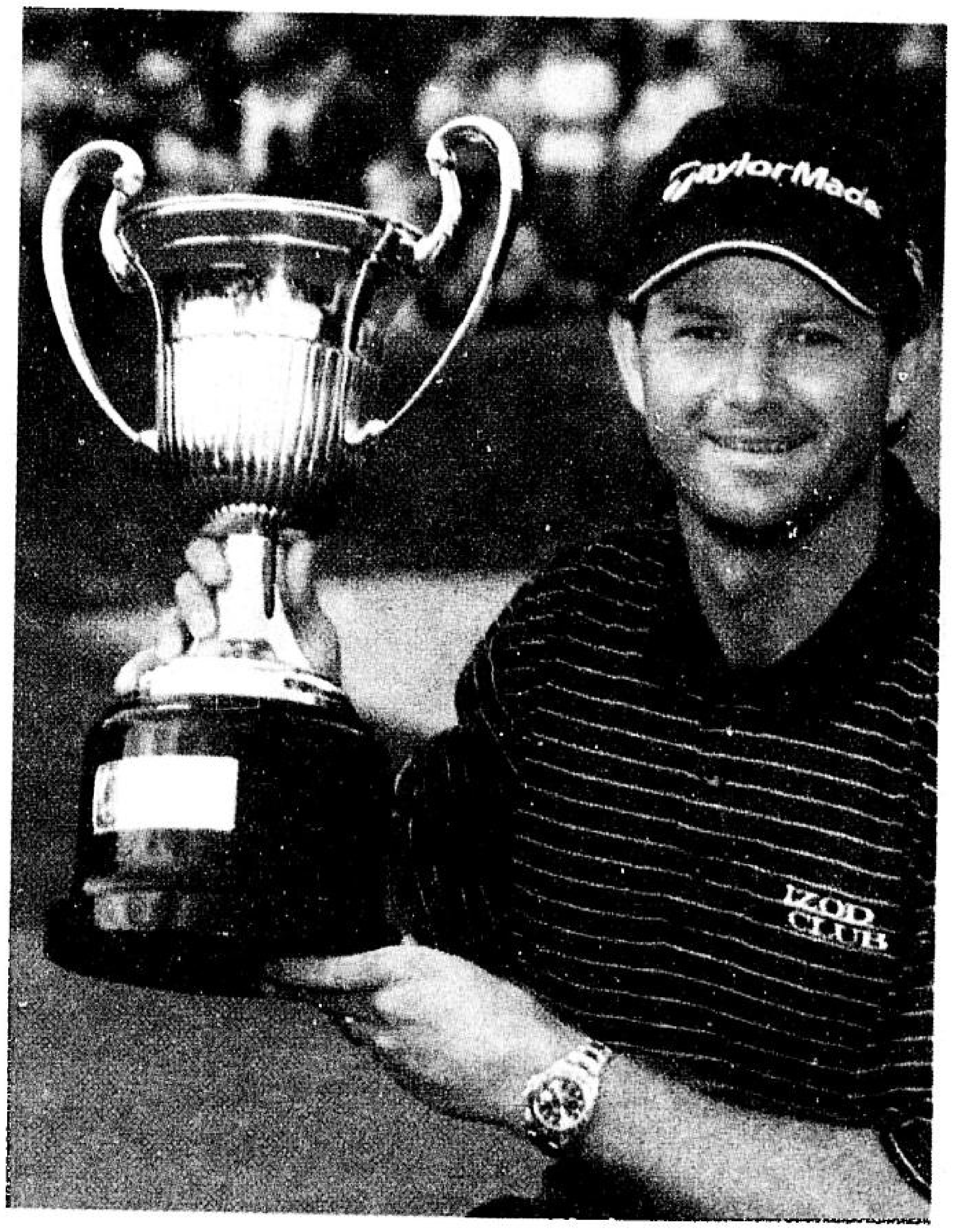
Goosen shot a final-round 3-under-par 68 to finish at 264 (20 under) and Webster had a 66.

It was Goosen's third victory of the season and the $210,000 winner's check took his season's earnings in Europe to $2,521,218.

England's Brian Davis shot a 62 to finish tied for third at 265 with Spain's Diego Borrego, who had a 67. Both men won $71,000.

Darren Clarke from Northern Ireland, who had an outside chance of catching Goosen for the No. 1 spot, had a 67 Sunday to finish at 268 in a four-man tie for sixth place.

"Retief's played very consistently all year and won one of the most difficult majors. That's what it takes to win the Order of Merit," Clarke said.



GOOSEN

"My form was good over the summer but with everything that went on at St. Louis, the tournament canceled after Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, Clarke added, "I took a break there and haven't played the same since."

Goosen was leaving for London for one week's rest and celebrations in his British base in Sunninghill, Surrey.

"It's just a great feeling to win the order of Merit," he said. "And especially like this. I knew that if I won the race it would be all history. The Volvo Masters in two weeks will now just be all about the tournament. We'll all enjoy that. I just knew I could pull it off today."

He will then undertake a heavy schedule of tournaments and special events which will have him playing through to February without a break.

TaylorMade notes:

Public reaction to the 300 Series golf clubs which propelled Goosen to the top has been very positive with an intensive marketing campaign to back it up.

Golfers are getting the actual feel of the 300 Series via the first Philippine demo golf tour initiated by TaylorMade in cooperation with Prestige Cars Makati and Canon around top driving ranges in Metro Manila.

In November, the driving ranges of Wack Wack (Nov. 3-4), Royal Maru (Nov. 10-11), Kagitingan (Nov. 17-18) and Sherwood (Nov. 24-25) will host the Tour.

The promo campaign also includes special contests in participating pro shops to be capped by a grand raffle draw at the TaylorMade Adidas head office in Emerald Ave., Ortigas Center.

Meanwhile, excitement is building up over the newly launched XR-03 Series of TaylorMade.

The hi-tech model will be released on a very limited basis which should be no more than 25,000 units worldwide.

Delasin conquers world's best

WITHOUT doubt, Dorothy Delasin is at par with the world's best.

The US-trained Filipina proved this recently when she ruled the Samsung World Championship in Vallejo, California with plenty to spare.

Shrugging off the threats from LPGA Tour standouts Karrie Webb and Se Ri Pak, Delasin won by a comfortable four strokes with a display of fine putting and solid shot making.

In fact, Delasin was the only one among the elite 20-player roster to go under-par throughout the tournament with rounds of 70-71-67-69, finishing without a single three-putt to pocket the $154,000 (P7.85 million) champion's purse.

That her third pro career victory came at the Hiddenbrooke Golf Club, where she had numerous amateur victories, only added sparkle to Delasin's growing reputation as one of the Tour's young turks, having emerged the 2000 Rookie of the Year.

"It was cool. I heard people cheering out my name again," Delasin said. "It was the best feeling. I wish I could record it and play it again."

Yes, at 21 Delasin is still pining for attention and adulation from the golfing community.

Her family, especially Daddy Sonny, had been very supportive though and it's only this year that he set her free to be with a new caddie—Clint Begay, who's the younger brother of notable PGA campaigner Notah.

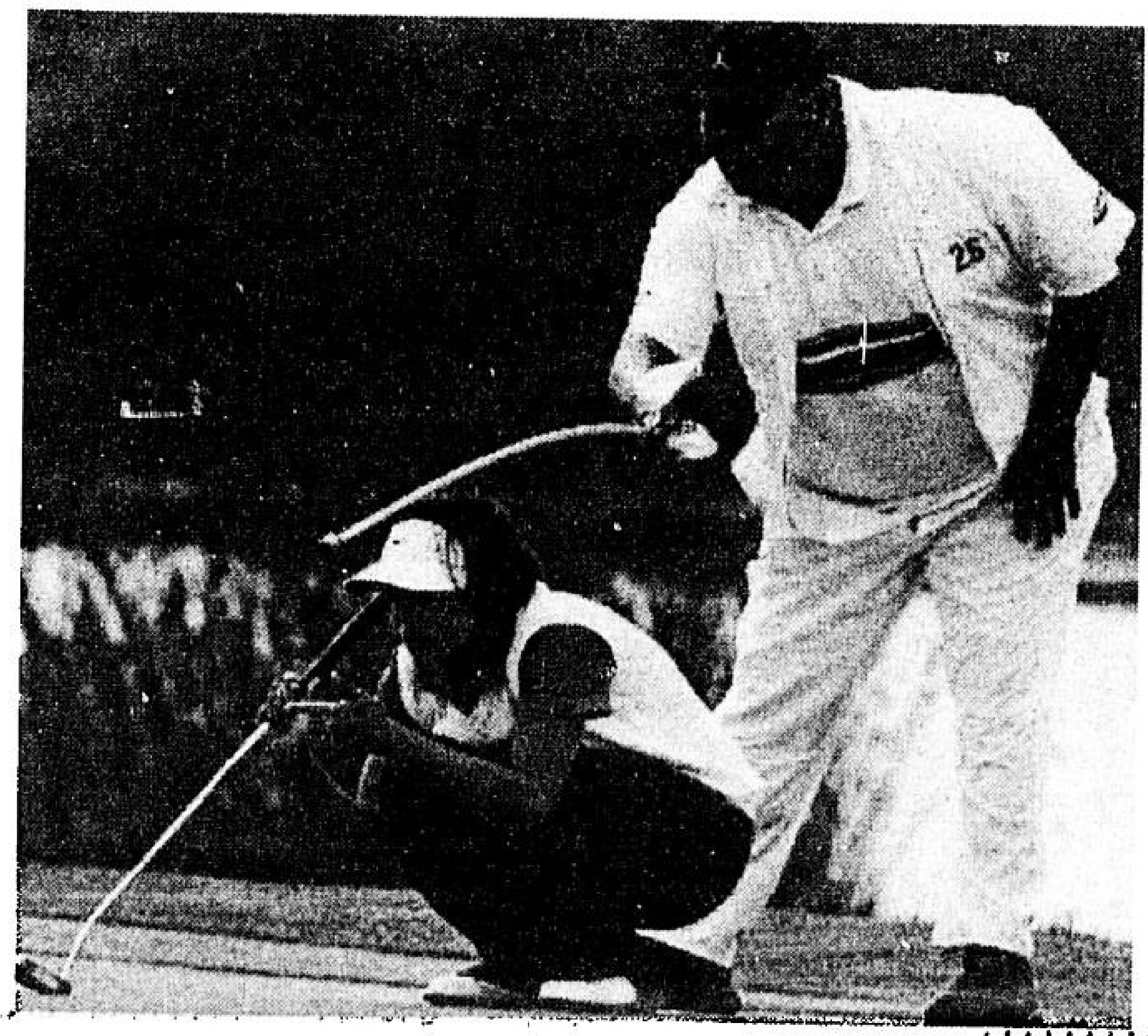
The Delasin-Begay partnership, not even a year old, is making heads turn in the Tour as they've won twice, including Delasin's repeat victory in the Giant Eagle Classic

Opting to forego the World Matchplay, Delasin has been in rigid training in Albuquerque, where she'd bought an apartment for herself.

Though she no longer has to worry about money, Delasin hopes that her latest conquest would finally let corporate sponsors see her commercial viability.

After all, there's no way for her but up.

Roy Luarca



DELASIN lines up her putt with the help of caddie Clint Begay.

CASH REGISTER

PGA Tour

Through the Buick Challenge (with number of events played in parentheses):

1. T. Woods (18)	$5,568,777
2. P. Mickelson (23)	4,403,883
3. D. Toms (27)	3,406,595
4. V. Singh (25)	3,338,829
5. D. Love III (19)	3,061,463
6. S. Hoch (23)	2,794,319
7. D. Duval (19)	2,635,094
8. Bob Estes (25)	2,628,810
9. S. Verplank (25)	2,580,901
10. S. Garcia (17)	2,513,635
11. C. DiMarco (28)	2,458,534
12. J. Furyk (23)	2,374,067
13. Joe Durant (24)	2,245,017
14. R. Allenby (28)	2,218,029
15. E. Els (18)	1,951,456
16. M. Calcavecchia (22)	1,893,576
17. M. Weir (22)	1,877,936
18. B. Faxon (25)	1,868,412
19. F. Lickliter II (28)	1,846,911
20. T. Lehman (22)	1,799,660

2001 LPGA Tour

Money leaders through the Cisco World Match Play Championship, which ended Oct. 28 (with events played in parentheses):

1. A. Sorenstam (24)	$1,828,868
2. Se Ri Pak (21)	1,623,009
3. K. Webb (21)	1,320,404
4. L. Kane (25)	916,134
5. M. Hjorth (27)	809,065
6. Mi Hyun Kim (29)	762,363
7. D. Pepper (22)	754,832
8. L. Diaz (26)	741,316
9. R. Jones (22)	728,010
10. C. Matthew (27)	726,123
11. R. Teske (26)	711,853
12. W. Ward (25)	674,906
13. E. Klein (30)	638,380
14. D. DELASIN (24)	**609,792**
15. S. Gustafson (23)	557,154

JAPAN PGA TOUR

Through the Philip Morris Championship (Money in Japanese yen)

1. T. Izawa (14)	Y168M
2. Lin Keng Chi (25)	Y92M
3. H. Tanaka (16)	Y85M
4. S. Katayama (15)	Y84M
5. D. Wilson (18)	Y80
6. T. Teshima (24)	Y74M
7. H. Fujita (24)	Y59M
8. K. Miyamoto (24)	Y55M
9. K. Fukabori (23)	Y54M
10. M. Ozaki (21)	54M
11. F. MIÑOZA (20)	**Y53M**
12. T. Taniguchi (17)	Y52
13. H. Meshiai (23)	Y44
14. T. Nakajima (18)	Y43M
15. K. Tomori (25)	Y41M

ASIAN PGA TOUR

Through the Volvo-China Open

1. C. Wi (14)	$289,092
2. T. Jaidee (15)	$212,428
3. A. Pitts (14)	$135,176
4. T. Wiratchant (15)	$112,842
5. A. Atwal(11)	$95,212
6. S. Yates (15)	$91,164
7. K. Wok-Soon (10)	$87,151
8. V. Bhandari (14)	$85,339
9. J. Kingston (12)	$84,922
10. D. Chopra (5)	$83,686
11. Y. Yong-eun (12)	$77,526
31. G. Rosales (13)	**$39,720**
45. D. Zarate (14)	**$27,234**
69. R. Cuello (12)	**$16,117**
76. C. Casas (9)	**$12,951**

ALABANG COUNTRY

IN THE BEGINNING

ALABANG Country Club Inc. was a project developed by the Ayala Corporation under the direction of Don Enrique and Don Jaime Zobel de Ayala. Conceptualized to be the first country club and golf course set in the very midst of a residential village, ACCI was intrinsic in the development plans of Ayala Alabang Village. Picking up from their experience, the decision was made to have both a country club and golf course in one proprietary club vis-à-vis the set-up in their prior village developments in Makati.

Started on June 18, 1979, ACCI was completed and opened to its members on January 6, 1981. With a maximum membership of only 2,500, it was niched to attract the top 5% of our society and was definitely a marketing tool in selling the lots in the high-end village being constructed in what used to be hectares upon hectares of mango groves.

Success in generating quality membership and construction of a formidable clubhouse, golf and sports complex can be attributed to the guidance of the set of officers positioned by Ayala Corp. They were Enrique Zobel (President), Jaime Zobel de Ayala (Vice President), Antonino Alindogan (Treasurer), Renato L. dela Fuente (Corporate Secretary) and directors Adolfo Duarte, Benito R. Araneta, Alfred Xerex Burgos Jr., Inigo Zobel and Enrique Belo.

In 1986, five years after opening, Ayala Corporation formally turned over management to the first set of elected Board Members of ACCI as a separate corporate entity. They were Delie C. Castillejos (President), Alfred Xerex Burgos Jr. (VP), Alfonso P. Garcia Jr. (Treasurer), Pompeyo C. Nolasco (Corporate Secretary), Aresenio G. Bonifacio III, (Legal Counsel) and directors Roberto Z. Lorayes, Jose U. Ong, Godofredo Galindez Jr., Edilberto S. Gaddi, Charles S. Hagedorn.

ACCI by-laws stipulate that the Board be comprised of nine (9) Board members who elect among themselves the officers for the year. To ensure a sense of continuity and smooth transition, three Board members are elected every year to serve for a three-year term. Thus, at any point in time there will be seasoned second-termers and outgoing third termers to combine talents and efforts with the newly elected first termers. This set-up has contributed substantially to the stability and reliability of services of ACCI.

Boasting of being the only Country Club with both a golf course and a polo field, Alabang's 74-hectare development was so designed to accommodate all possible needs for the elite membership it has among its roster. To date, it has remained the only successful residential village-based golf and country club in the country which newer clubs have tried in vain to replicate.

Despite having the lowest monthly dues among comparable golf and country clubs in the country, ACCI has been able to successfully operate without the need of charging any fees from its members for use of any facility other than that of its F&B operations.

Though not immune to the economic conditions that causes fluctuations in share value, members are hardly concerned with these temporary figures. The land value alone of the club makes the worth of their proprietary share many times over their acquisition costs.

Despite the influx of numerous golf and country clubs in its prior area of supremacy in southern GMA, Alabang Country Club Inc. has sustained the loyalty and continued patronage of its membership. Though many have secondary shares in other clubs, they do not mince their words when they proudly say that ACCI remains their second home, the club that they proudly claim to belong.

TALK about a worry-free, family-friendly hangout and the Alabang Country Club should be on top of the list.

Alabang's complete facilities has turned it into an option next to, sometimes even more than, the malling craze especially for those allergic to Metro Manila traffic.

"It's a lifestyle more than a membership," says former Batangas Gov. Joey Laurel, citing the club's continuous efforts to make it wholesome for everybody.

"I think we're the only one which is really so complete and this is the reason why everybody goes to the club next to home," adds Laurel.

True to its being a family club, Alabang boast of members that belong to a clan, fathers with their scions sometimes up to three generations already (Zobel de Ayalas, Xerex Burgos, Cervantes, Martires, etc.) or siblings (Laurels, Chiongbians, Montinolas, Padillas, Prietos, Mapas, Ibazetas, Cojuangcos, Yulos, Madrigals and many more)

It's been 20 years since this cycle started.

To celebrate its 20th anniversary, the Alabang Country Club, Inc., in cooperation with the club's biggest supporter, Smart Communications, holds its biggest event of the year on November 22–25, 2001.

In line with the celebration, various activities will be held during the four-day festivities. The festivities will start off with a Thanksgiving Mass at the Main Ballroom, to be followed by a fireworks show.

20th YEAR
R F

Pick a prize: Any of the five best-selling models

A four-day bazaar to be run by the Rotary Club of Alabang at the Polo field will be opened to everyone. Various items such as signature clothes, shoes, CDs and gift items will be on sale. Feria rides and games will spice up the fun and enjoyment. Sponsors such as SMART COMMUNICIATIONS and INSULAR LIFE have planned various on the spot activities with instant prizes to liven up the festive atmosphere and encourage more people to come.

Club Movers

WITH the delay of one month caused by the postponement of the Stockholders Meeting due to lack of quorum, the current Board has rolled up its sleeves, generously give a lot of time to prioritize the needs of our Club, and strictly implement advance submission of any proposal that needs a Board decision to allow them to judiciously assess the matters presented. Never in the history of the Club has the Board voluntarily set two regular meetings a month to hasten the decision process.

PARTNERS FOR PROGRESS: Jimenez and Ampil.

Hastening the decision process in the boardroom.

ACCI 20th year celebration overall chair Gilbert Martires shakes hands with Golf Shares' Paul Cortez.

The end result are new amenities our members now enjoy and a focused management team geared towards providing members' satisfaction. The tone set is for all to be proactive rather than reactive. And topping the list of must-do projects is the continued upgrading of our 20 year old facilities. All new approved projects are backed by the necessary manpower and maintenance budgets to ensure that that these capital expenditures will remain in prime condition befitting our members'

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CLUB TURNS 20

CELEBRATION

ALABANG COUNTRY CLUB
20TH YEAR CELEBRATION
RAFFLE PRIZES

Various tournaments will also be held for the sports-loving members. The tournaments will cover the different sports – golf, basketball, swimming, bowling, tennis, etc.

The members and their dependents can also enjoy and showcase their dancing skills in their Dinner-Dance (For Members) and Rock and Rave (For Dependents).

On the final day on Sunday, Nov. 5, the club will give away 5 grand prizes – a Nissan Patrol, a Toyota Corolla Altis, 1.6, a Nissan Exalta 1500 DS, a Mitsubishi Lancer GLX 1500 and a Honda City 1.5. Aside from the above, the club will also raffle off a 29" Sony Flat TV, two 25" Sony Flat TVs, two Sony Digital Cameras, a Sony DVD Component and a PIII-733 Computer Set with a scanner and printer.

A no-nonsense marketing blitz drew an outpouring of corporate support.

Smart Communications is coming in as a co-presentor with Insular life and the Golfers Club Share of Paul Cortez as major sponsor.

Area sponsors include Nissan Alabang of ACCI member Alfredo Castro Jr., Pilipinas Shell, Casino Filipino and Bank of Philippine Islands.

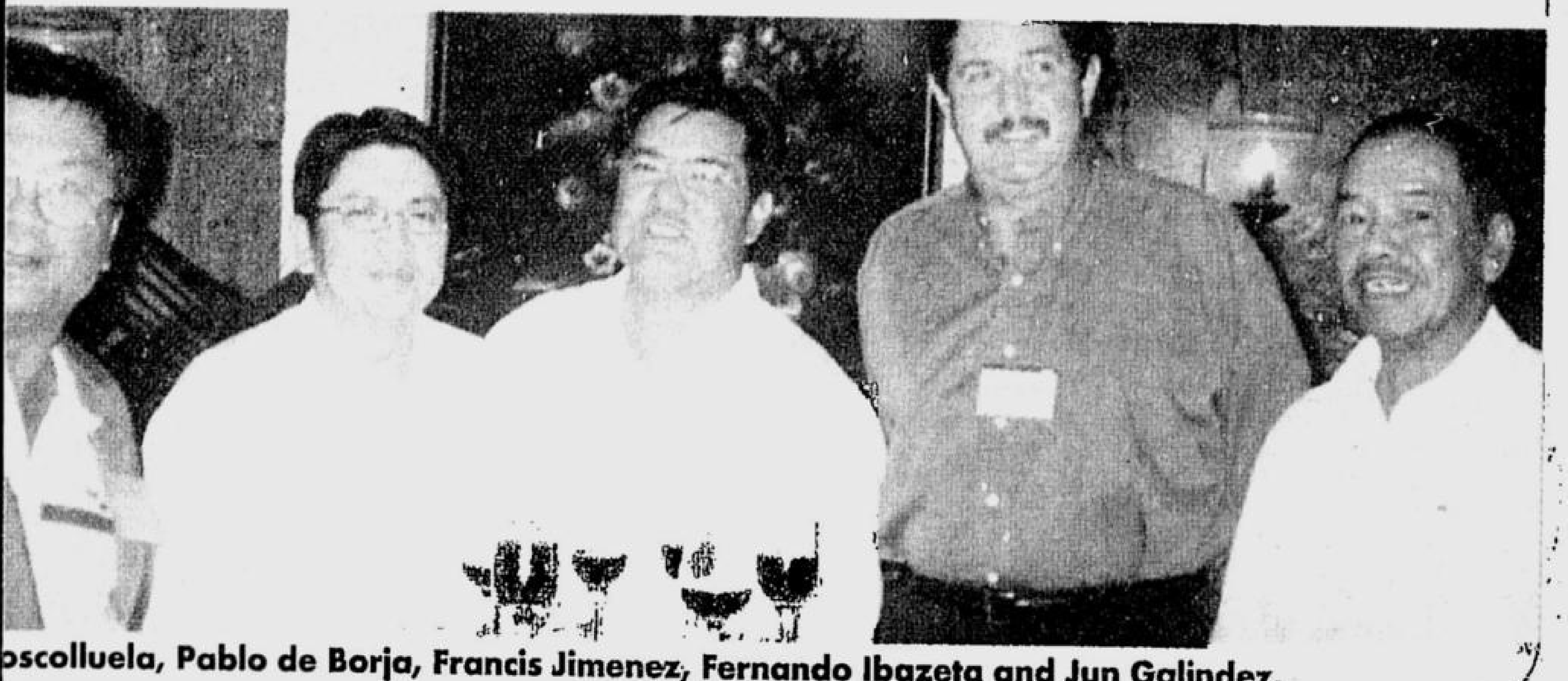
The hole sponsors are Foremost Name in Swimming Pool, Philcomsat, Contel Communications, Manila Bank, ABN-Amro, Good Tree, Aquaventure, Record Safekeeping, Pioneer Insurance, Cinnabon through PDBorja, Volvo Makati, BJ Martel through Dindo Ibazeta, Max's/ Muscle Beach through Jog Salud, Berbeck Industries and R&E Espiritu Builders.

eeds for at least another 20 ears.

ember satisfaction and asset eservation & enhancement ntinue to be the main thrust the current board. With the failing support of the man-ement staff and employees, ore good things are expected r our members.

Smart Communications, represented by Greg A. Atienza during the last Mango Tee ceremonials also graced by past ACCI president Vic Guzman, is back as major sponsor

e present members of the Alabang Coun- b, Inc. board are Farley L. Ampil (Chair- the Board), Francis L. Jimenez dent), Benjamin A. Narciso (Vice Presi- ose C. Laurel V (Treasurer), Pablo A. De Borja (Corporate Secretary), Godofredo Galindez Jr. (Director/Chair - Golf Com.), Gilbert R. Martires (Director/Chair – Socials), David N. Floro (Director/Chair – House), Fernando Ibazeta (Director/Chair – Sports).



oscolluela, Pablo de Borja, Francis Jimenez, Fernando Ibazeta and Jun Galindez.

Who's who in Alabang

AN ex-president, two senators, governors, mayors, actors and corporate bigwigs.They're all in the Alabang membership roster.

Fidel Valdez Ramos, the cigar-chomping former chief executive now called Citizen Eddie, and former vice president Emmanuel Pelaez are among the club's active members.

Other prominent names in the club roster are Senators Cayetano and Vic Magsaysay, Supreme Court justice Tony Carpio, PNCC head Luis Sison, PNOC chair Sergio Apostol, Mindoro Gov. Mintu, Quezon Gov. Vergara and Mayor Joey Marquez.

Shareholders from showbiz are Aga Muhlach, Martin Nievera, Vic Sotto, Amalia Fuentes, Nestor de Villa and Louie Ocampo.

A look at the future

FOR the members and dependents of Alabang, they can just look around the improvements in the club to have a peek at the future.

The gym has been upgraded to 5-star status with doubling of space, change of layout to maximize the view of the polo field via panoramic glass walls and state-of-the-art equipment.

The Children's Pavilion beside the kiddie pool and playground as been refurbished, enclosed and airconditioned to make it comfortable for the frequent children's parties.

Soon, a website will be launched to coincide with the 20th anniversary celebrations.

With six covered tennis courts and the same number of open courts, plans have been approved to convert three courts into a multi-purpose function area for the likes of open air banquets and stage productions as this can accommodate up to 300 persons.

"All these were doing to make sure that the club will really become a second home for all the members and their families," says ACCI president Francis Jimenez.

Come join the Alabang fun
November 22 - 25, Thursday to Sunday

Various activities as ACCI celebrates its 20th year have been set. Dependents will enjoy the Friday Rock & Rave Night at the Polo field with the WOLFGANG Band providing the first part and various DJ's for the RAVE PORTION. Members can have a fun night with their spouse, reminiscing the good old days as ASCIANO Band provide back to back music with the Onda Latino. Be ready to dance or just enjoy the retro sounds, when music was music.
Sunday will be the culmination of the celebration with the Awards Night and drawing for the Five-Car Raffle. Adding to the festivities will be the BAZAAR and FAIR at the Polo Field throughout the four days (OPEN TO THE PUBLIC). SEE YOU ALL THERE!

Prize for Loyalty

The club will honor:

- **280 original members who have actively used their shares continuously for 20 years**
- **14 employees who have been with ACCI for at least 20 years will be given RINGS with ACCI 20 year logo, etc.**
- **33 caddies who have served the golfers for 20 years will be given wrist watches with ACCI logo**

PAID ADVT

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Golf Show 2001 a success

WHAT was matinee idol Aga Muhlach doing inside the SM Megatrade Hall on a weekend when he was supposed to be taking care of Charlene so heavy with their twin babies?

The golf habitue that he really is, Muhlach—minus the entertainment press—led a number of celebrity appearances that highlighted the recent sixth Philippine International Golf Show.

Richard Gomez also came as well as television host Vic Sotto and action icon Ian Veneracion not to mention President Ramos and MMDA chair Ben Abalos, who were the guests of honor on opening day.

Thousands of golfers trooped to the Megatrade Hall for the three-day exhibition where the world's biggest golf merchants showcased their new products and shook up the market with their super bargains.

Seminars, skills competitions and a fashion show that had officers of the organizing Golf Distributors Association of the Philippines and their kids doing the catwalk completed an eventful Show.

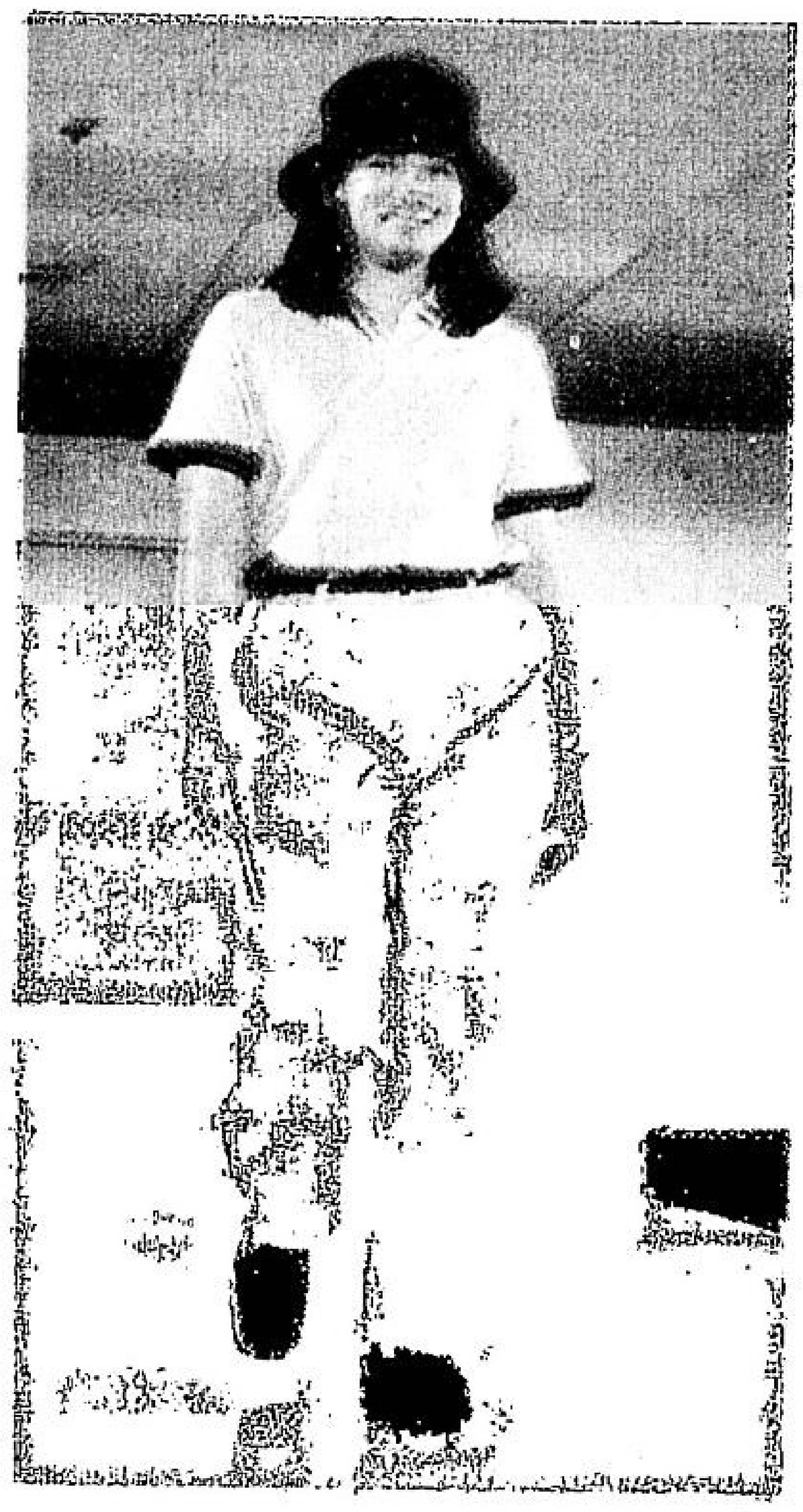
FVR AND MMDA Chair Ben Abalos cut the ceremonial ribbon opening the show together with GDAP officials and Tradex.

GDAP president, Raymund Atendido wears something of the bigger sizes down the catwalk.

CLOSE to GQ quality, Glenn Baroma transforms from Callaway general manager to a ramp model for the Jack Nicklaus apparel.

HE'S GOT too many of them but FVR still shows his gratitude by raising another plaque of appreciation given him this time by GDAP as Abalos, Raymund Atendido and Edwin Erni applaud.

A TYPICAL scene at the Show where visitors jump on every bargain opportunity.



KARINA Herrera takes a walk of victory in the fashion show, grinning from ear to ear for a successful job as exhibit chair.

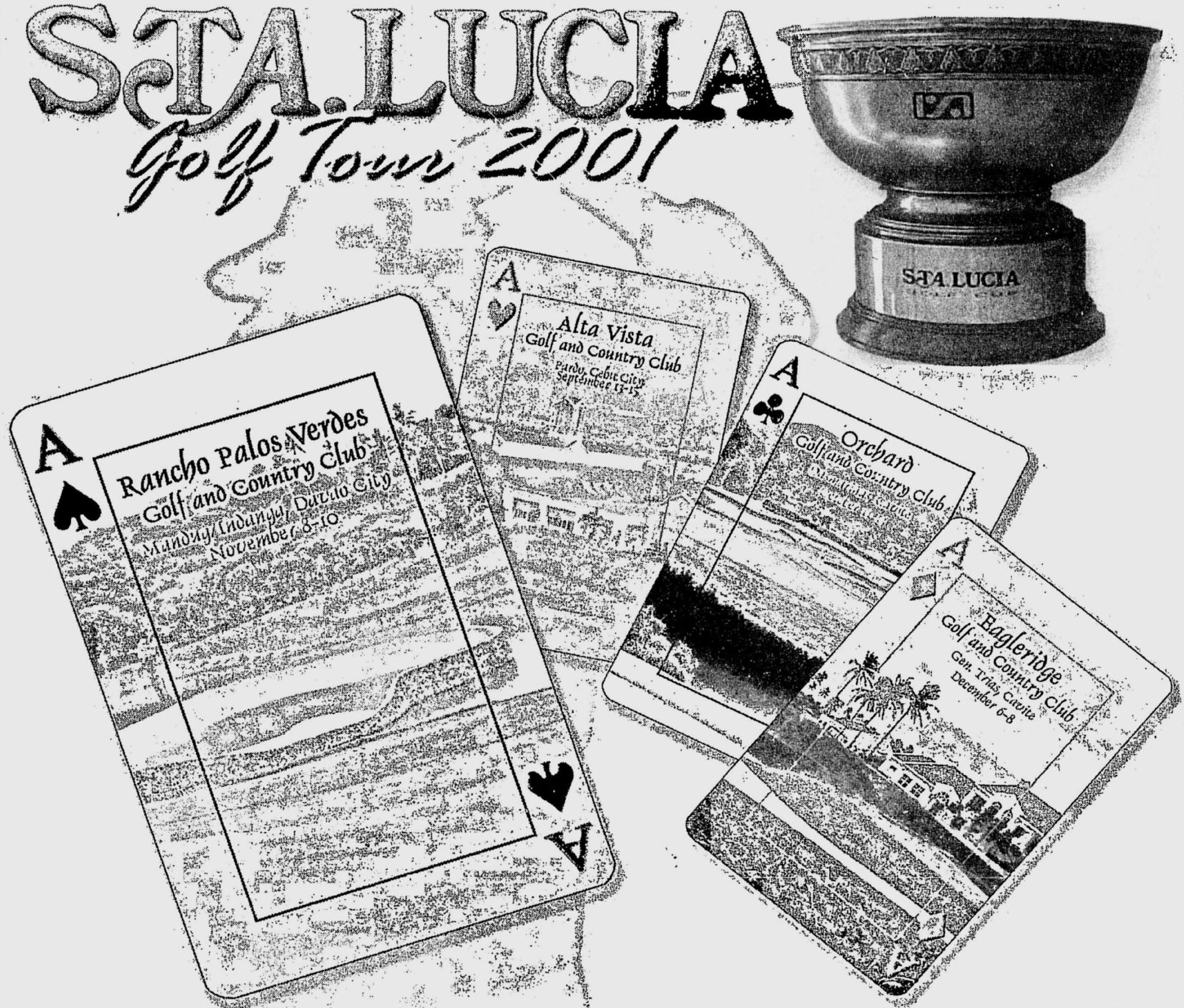
PHOTOS/ROGER CARPIO

ANSWERS TO RULES QUIZ

1. No. According to Rule 16-1a, a player can only touch his line of putt in removing loose impediments with his hand or a club. Using a towel or cap in this situation is not permitted. Dindo is penalized 2 strokes. (Decision 16-1a8)
2. No. Rule 14-1 requires that the ball must be struck at with the head of the club. In match play, Jesse loses the hole. In stroke play, he gets a 2-stroke penalty and the stroke with the wrong end of the putter counts and he is considered to have completed play of the hole. (Decision 14-1/3)
3. Yes. When Harry entered the bunker, made a firm stance and simulated his bunker shot, it constituted testing the condition of the hazard even if it was done without a club. (Decision 13-4/25)
4. The ball is not lost. Since Carlito has been able to identify the ball as his, he may now proceed under the unplayable ball Rule (Rule 28). (Decision 27/14)
5. Barney should be disqualified under Rule 6-2b. It is the responsibility of the competitor to ensure that his correct handicap is recorded on his scorecard before it is returned to the Committee. (Decision 6-2b/3.5)

STA. LUCIA

Golf Tour 2001


STA. LUCIA
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Alta Vista
Golf and Country Club
Pardo, Cebu City
September 13-15
A
Rancho Palos Verdes
Golf and Country Club
Mandug/Indangan, Davao City
November 8-10
A
Orchard
Golf and Country Club
A
Eagleridge
Golf and Country Club
Gen. Trias, Cavite
December 6-8

YAMAHA Look Smart

Philippine Airlines

OMEGA

THE MARCO POLO DAVAO

Club Car

CEBU PLAZA HOTEL

HYATT REGENCY MANILA

HOLE-IN-ONE **PARTNER HOTELS**

FIVE participating clubs. Six golf courses, and 200 member-players.

The Sta. Lucia Golf Tour 2001 goes nationwide.

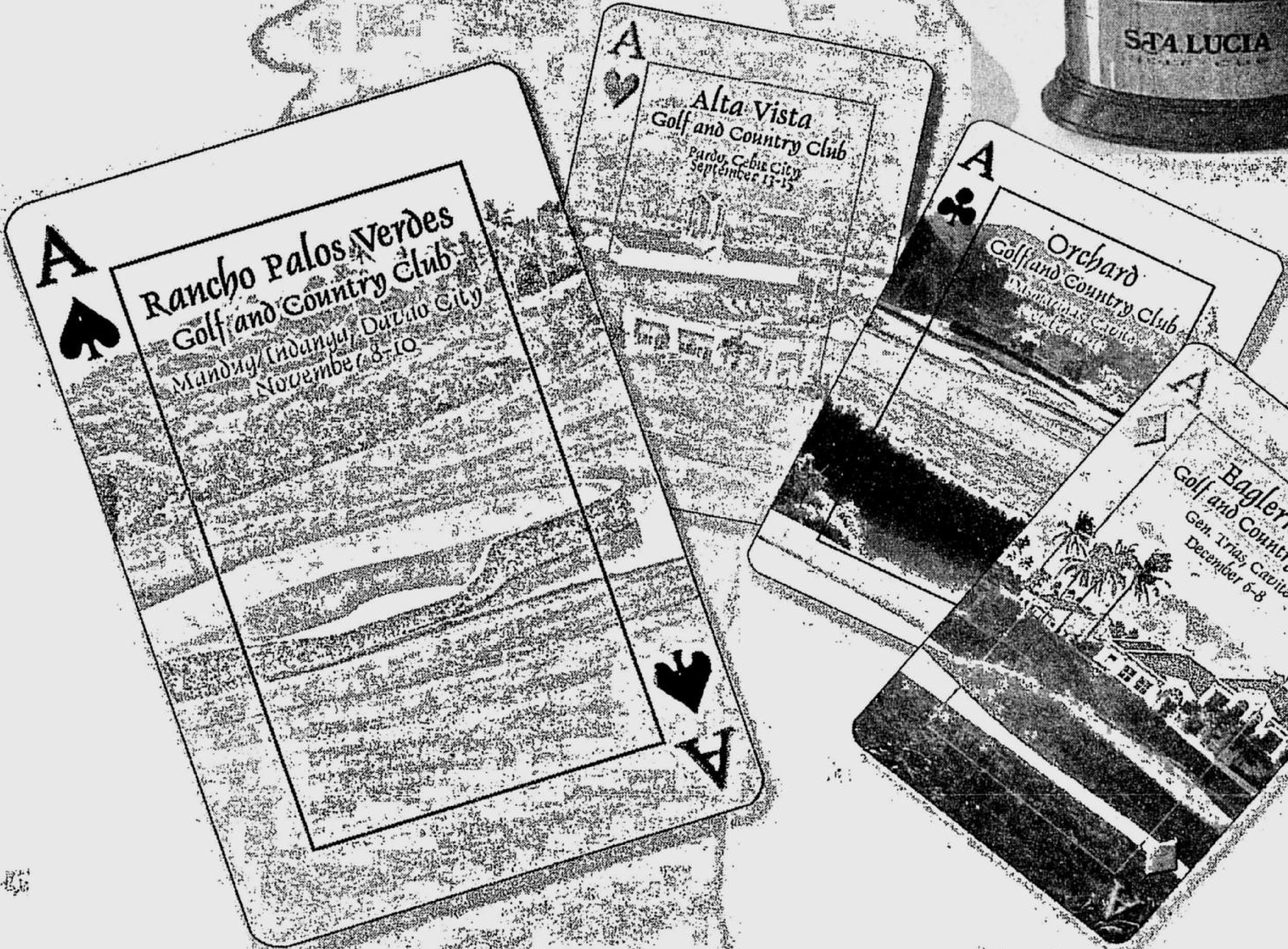
With the unveiling of Rancho Palos Verdes Golf and Country Club in Davao City, Sta. Lucia's latest link among its growing roster of world-class golf courses, the Golfing Islands Philippines Tour is now complete. From the Visayas (Alta Vista in Cebu), to Luzon (Orchard in Cavite), then to Mindanao (Palos Verdes in Davao), and back to Luzon (Eagleridge in Cavite). This tour is certainly not lacking in courses to compete with, not just fabulous prizes but also lots of new friends to [illegible]

The Sta. Lucia family continues to get bigger and better every year. And that's a commitment.

GRAND RAFFLE PRIZE: RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY IN EAGLERIDGE VALUED AT MORE THAN P 1 MILLION PLUS OTHER VALUABLE PRIZES WORTH P 1.2 MILLION.

STA. LUCIA

Golf Tour 2001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Rancho Palos Verdes
Golf and Country Club
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The Sta. Lucia family continues to get bigger and bolder every year. And that's a commitment.

YAMAHA
Look Smart

Philippine Airlines

OMEGA

THE MARCO POLO
DAVAO

Club Car

CEBU PLAZA
HOTEL

HYATT
REGENCY
MANILA

HOLE-IN-ONE

PARTNER HOTELS

GRAND RAFFLE PRIZE: RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY IN EAGLERIDGE VALUED AT MORE THAN P 1 MILLION PLUS OTHER VALUABLE PRIZES WORTH P 1.2 MILLION.

Global Site

WITH the very positive response we have been getting when we started Club Shares Quotes via Text Messaging in cooperation with Globe Telecom and Smart Communications last month, the re-launch of our very own website is a communication and marketing inevitability. Where else can the information-hungry executives and tech-savvy yuppies go when they want data they can click, cut and paste into their laptops? I raise a toast to our new website www.ggaclubshares.com.

Our renewed official entry to cyberspace features clean, easy to navigate pages which are perfect for net surfers who want information at the speed of a mouse click. The opening page shows you right away what's new and hot among the many club shares included in our updated Club Shares Quote list. Aside from the staple buyer and seller prices in each club share entry, we even include additional club fees to be paid by the buyer upon transaction.

And if you want to receive your weekly club shares quote directly in your e-mail, just sign our Feedback Form. You can also use this form for any questions you want to ask us, be it on club shares, price of golf equipment, tournament results, playing tips, or anything about golf that you have in mind and we will e-mail you back promptly.

Don't forget that this club shares quote is the same hot information you'll get from our text messaging services and if you want to learn more on how you can use this mobile phone feature, click on Quotes via Text under Special Write-ups.

There's even a handy Questions and Answers section where you can read about the rudiments of club shares brokerage or trading.

For those who want to see and study the price movement of selected clubs, check out the Price Trends link. Clubs are categorized according to price range starting below 500 thousand pesos.

FORESIGHT

Eduardo H. Galvez

For an on-line brochure of selected clubs across the country, click on our Club Info where you'll get basic information about the club such as its amenities and services. Incidentally, we have chosen Riviera Golf, Sports & Country Club as our Featured Club for the Month of November. And if you want to learn more about the club's monthly activities, tournaments and other developments, or simply just how to play the course, go to Club Talk.

For the first upload, we bring you two great clubs: Eagle Ridge Golf and Country Club and Canyon Woods. Learn how you can smartly play the Nick Faldo course, one of Eagle Ridge's four championship courses.

Find out how you can own an elegant Canyon Woods property through "Membership Upgrade," a program designed to make sure that a member of the club can also have the benefit of a homeowner. Give us some time and we will feature more of your favorite clubs in our site.

Finally, get to know GG&A Club Shares and the things we do like club shares brokerage, financing assistance, leasing, and corporate portfolio management. Read about Golf Club of the Year, the highest recognition given to a local club which has shown excellence in member relations, maintenance of facilities, services rendered by the staff, and the management group. Here, we will give you firsthand information—from the planning and developing of the coming search, survey sites, initial and final survey results, selection of judges, and many more.

There are a lot of things that we want to do to continually improve our services to our clients. One big way is communication: we get to know your wants through your feedback and e-mail, you get to know us by logging in to our site in any part of the globe. So log on today.

If you have comments or queries, you may e-mail ggashare@mozcom.com or fax them to 894-3021/750-7894. For club share quotes on your mobile phone, please send the text message GGA HELP to 2333 for Globe Handyphone or 288 for Smart Gold & Buddy subscribers or visit our website at www.ggaclubshares.com for more information.

Shipping executive picked as winner of Guam prize

BY SHEER luck, shipping executive Wilfredo Monillas will soon have a golfing holiday he's been waiting for.

Monillas is a frequent hitter at the Kagitingan driving range in Fort Bonifacio. So, when the Guam hole-in-one challenge was held, he was among those who kept aiming at flag for five straight weeks in September. The competition promoted Guam as one of the world's most exciting destinations.

However, it turned out Monillas' luck was off the range as his name was picked from among the hundreds of raffle stubs in the bowl. A lucky draw took place to determine a winner of the golfing holiday in Guam complete with a roundtrip ticket provided by Continental Airlines and accommodations being offered by Pacific Islands Club.

Guam Visitors Bureau
Setbision Bisitan Guahan
GVB
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RIZES
EED TO
VISITO

MONILLAS (second from left) receives his prize from Kendrick Go of GVB. Joining them are Ramon Magno of Continental Airlines (left) and Lovell Gopez of Mizuno (right).

Organizers had to raffle off the prize when no one scored a hole-in-one during five-week contest staged by the Guam Visitors Bureau and co-sponsored by Mizuno.

Kendrick U. Go, Philippine representative of GVB, said that Monillas, general manager of China Shipping Manila agency Inc., is in for a grand time in Guam.

"That's what the contest is all about, the winner gets the best Guam can offer. Like Mr. Monillas, other golfers in the Philippines may also want to give it a try in the near future," said Go.

GG & A Club Shares
SEC License Broker #007575 * As of November 6, 2001
www.ggaclubshares.com

CLUB	BUYER	SELLER
Alabang Country Club "A" (Filipino)	1,340,000	Please Call
Alabang Country Club "B" (Foreigner)	-	1,700,000
Baguio Country Club	700,000	800,000
Calatagan Golf Club "A"	-	90,000
Calatagan Golf Club "B"	-	115,000
Camp John Hay	250,000	300,000
Canlubang	-	800,000
Canyonwoods	-	350,000
Capitol Hills	100,000	135,000
Cebu Country Club	-	2,000,000
Celebrity Sports Club	190,000	200,000
Eagle Ridge "A"/"B"/"C"	Please Call	Please Call
Eastridge "A"	Please Call	Please Call
Evercrest "A"	-	100,000
Forest Hills "A"	210,000	220,000
Forest Hills "B"	-	230,000
Forest Hills "C"	-	300,000
Makati Sports Club "A"	Please Call	325,000
Makati Sports Club "B"	Please Call	375,000
Manila Golf (Corporate)	-	15,000,000
Manila Golf (Individual)	-	12,500,000
Manila Polo	2,700,000	Please Call
Manila Southwoods "A"	-	720,000
Manila Southwoods "B"	700,000	750,000
Metropolitan Club "B"	-	160,000
Montemar (Individual)	-	40,000
Mt. Malarayat	-	350,000
Orchard Golf Club "A"	200,000	250,000
Orchard Golf Club "B"	-	350,000
Orchard Golf Club "C"	350,000	500,000
Philippine Columbian	-	80,000
Pueblo de Oro "A"/"B"/"C"	-	Please Call
Puerto Azul	-	130,000
Quezon City Sports Club	200,000	240,000
Riviera Golf & Country Club "A"	-	Please Call
Rockwell	-	550,000
Sherwood Hills "A"	-	150,000
Sta. Elena "A"	-	1,700,000
Sta. Elena "B"	1,800,000	Please Call
Subic Bay Yacht (Corporate)	-	400,000
Subic Bay Yacht (Individual)	-	200,000
Tagaytay Country Club	360,000	390,000
Tagaytay Highlands	750,000	850,000
Tagaytay Midlands	-	770,000
The Country Club	Please Call	Please Call
Valle Verde (Individual)	170,000	190,000
Valley Golf	220,000	240,000
Wack-Wack Golf Club	-	6,900,000

PLAYING RIGHTS

(Available Lessors)

Alabang "A"	25,000	Mimosa Golf	25,000
Calatagan "A"	10,000	Orchard "A"	30,000
Canlubang	55,000	Riviera "A"	10,000
Eagleridge	15,000	Sta. Elena	60,000
Eastridge "A"	20,000	Tagaytay CC	20,000
Forest Hills	30,000	Tagaytay Golf	40,000
Manila Southwoods	40,000	Tagaytay Mid.	35,000
Makati Sports "A"	25,000	Valley Golf	20,000
Manila Golf	300,000	Wack-Wack	90,000

For more information, please call:
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Eagle Ridge makes move in SLR Tour

THE ORCHARD "D" team made mincemeat of its Division I rivals at its home course but Eagle Ridge made its big move by bagging the two other titles disputed in the second leg of the Sta. Lucia Tour 2001 recently.

Dan Salvador III got his revenge by taking the Class A plum he lost via a countback in the first leg, firing 49 and 48 points to lead his team to an overwhelming 36-point win over another Orchard squad.

Salvador's brother Paul was poised to challenge Dan for the top plum after scoring a medal round of one-over 73 equivalent to 53 points in the first round that triggered the breakaway.

Paul, however, got disqualified by Tour rulesman Buddy Resurreccion for using an already-deformed putter on the second day and put to waste his 47 that could have easily made him the overall champ. Teammates Jojo Castañeda (48) and Rudel Panganiban (40) made up for his absence.

The Sta. Lucia Tour is a series among clubs operating under the banner of the real estate giant. The co-sponsors are Golforce Inc., Gainers Marketing, Atlanta Industries, Kubota Agro-Ind. Machinery Phils., Unirock, Readycon, Club Car, Omega, Yamaha/Kart Plaza, Philippine Airlines, Kodak Digital Camera, Isuzu Fuego-Alabang, Neltex, Anako and Transnational Diversified Group. Official hotels are Hyatt, Cebu Plaza and Marco Polo-Davao.

Eagle Ridge teams, meanwhile, won both Groups II and III, shutting out the entries from the south-first leg host Alta Vista of Cebu and Rancho Palos Verdes which will stage the inaugural Mindanao stop next month.

Orchard chair Gonrad Benitez and president Dr. Carlo Magno were on hand to award the prizes to the winners during the closing ceremony also graced by Vicente Santos and engineer Winnie Gob, chair and co-chair of the Tour executive committee, respectively.

Eagle "O" made up of Mario Naval, Edgardo Villamor, Ambrosio de Luna and Mariano Inductivo posted 245 for a 26-point win over Royale Tagaytay "B" in Group II.

Eagle teams I and J pulled off a 1-2 finish in Group III. Eagle I was composed of Alexander Dandan, Roberto Castro, Karl Richard Reyes and Cyril Salamanque.

Three Eagle Ridge players joined Salvador in the roster of individual winners. They were Naval with his 91 points in Class B, Antonio del Rosario with 81 in Class C and Vincent Timasic with 78 in Class D.

ORCHARD'S Paul Salvador (center) receives his prizes as one of the daily low scorers from Alta Vista director Ramon Sebastian (right) and Renato Dychangco Jr.

HALLOWEEN HOLE-IN-ONE

BANK Executive Rolando Geronimo (third from right) receives from Mitsubishi Motors Phils. Senior EVP Yoshizumi Kurata the key to a 2002 Mitsubishi Adventure Gls gas manual he won for scoring a hole-in-one on the 17th of the Masters course of the Manila Southwoods during the club's Halloween Tournament recently. Looking on are, from left, Mel Dizon (MMPI VP for Marketing), Nario Hada (EVP-Treasury) and Freddie Mendoza, sports and games chair of Southwoods.

No excuse to ignorance

BY BUDDY RESURRECCION

IT NEVER ceases to amaze me that so many golfers out there don't take the time to go through the Rules of Golf or even make an attempt to understand what golf is all about. One would think it natural that anybody who wanders into a golf course or tennis or basketball court with the intention of playing the game should make an effort to learn the rules. After all, the rules of the game dictate what you can or cannot do.

But we see a lot of golfers out there constantly being surprised that they are in violation of the rules and they invariably give the lame reason that they didn't know they were violating a rule. So, Mr. Rules Man, could you please forgive me?

Not a chance. Ignorance of the law or the rules is still no excuse... The thing about this word ignorance is that it stems from the word ignore. It is there but you just don't want to look at it. Ignorance then is not so much about being stupid, it is more likely to be the result of laziness.

Methinks we have just become lazy. Whenever we turn on a new appliance, unwrap a new gadget or buy that piece of real estate, very few of us have the patience or maybe the time to go through the contract or instruction manual, what more for the Rules of Golf?

What some golfers don't realize is that knowing the rules can and will be to your advantage. First, you'll know what you shouldn't do—that means no unnecessary penalty strokes to ruin your day. Then you'll know what you could do—which means you know the options you can take.

This is not to say that everyone should become an expert on the rules. There are only a few people in this world who have become experts on the rules of golf and some of them inexplicably develop this warped view of reality that even I wouldn't want to be one of them.

But golfers should at least have a working knowledge of etiquette and the rules before they even set foot on the course. The rulebook with all of its 34 rules may appear foreboding but there is no need to memorize each and every one of them. Just a simple reading through the rulebook will give any golfer a general idea of the framework under which the game is played.

Experience will be the final teacher. Whether it is being disqualified for a serious breach of the rules or just being penalized for an infraction, it is experiences like these that leave indelible marks on any golfers consciousness.

I once penalized a player who was leading the tournament 2 strokes for being late to tee. He was at the teeing ground on time but he didn't bring a club so he was not ready to play when his flight was called. Lesson learned. He made the lowest score but was disqualified because he didn't add the 2 strokes on the first hole. Another lesson learned.

So keep on reading and keep on learning, guys. And for heaven's sake, take time to read and understand the format of any tournament you're playing in before you tee off. Read it real careful—the future of the fatherland and the colored TV is at stake.

If you have any questions about the rules or any rules situation that you may need to discuss or clarify, send us a fax or email and let's turn it into a learning experience. _HYPERLINK "mailto:buddyres@lycos.com" __buddyres@lycos.com_

KNOW YOUR RULES

1. Dindo's ball is on the green and there are a lot of leaves on his line of putt. Because there are so many, his caddy uses a towel to brush aside the leaves and Dindo helps out by using his cap. Is this permissible?
2. Jesse misses a short putt and, in jest, he holes the ball out with the wrong (grip) end of his putter. The ball falls into the hole. Was Jesse allowed to do that?
3. While waiting to hit his bunker shot, Harry goes to another part of the bunker, takes a firm stance and simulates his bunker shot without using a club. Does this action violate Rule 13-4a and constitute testing the hazard?
4. Carlito's ball is lodged up in a tree where it is not recoverable. The ball is visible from the ground and he borrows the binoculars of a spectator to zoom into the ball and identifies it as his. Is the ball lost since it is not recoverable? Must Carlito now proceed under Rule 27-1?
5. In a stroke play competition, the Committee makes a mistake and issues a scorecard to Barney with his handicap is listed as 7. Barney's real handicap is 6 and this affects the number of strokes he receives. The error is not noticed until the scorecard is submitted. If the competition has not yet closed, what is the ruling?

ANSWERS ON PAGE 11

World Cuppers raring to go

THEY have nothing to lose and everything to gain. Rodrigo Cuello and Danny Zarate need not worry about how they will fare in the 2001 World Golf Championships-EMC World Cup at the Taiheyo Club's Gotemba course in Shizuoka, Japan.

As long as they give it their best shot, Filipinos would not expect too much. After all, they'd be up against the world's top players in the tournament slated Nov. 15-18.

Back to defend their title are Americans Tiger Woods and David Duval, who lead the 18 two-man teams seeded by virtue of their lofty placing in the Official World Golf Ranking.

The Filipinos are among the six squads which made it to the $3 million tournament by way of the Davidoff Nations Cup held in Malaysia in September.

Cuello and Zarate, who were last-minute substitutes for the heralded Frankie Minoza and Cassius Casas, wound up tied for third with the bets from Mex d Holland.

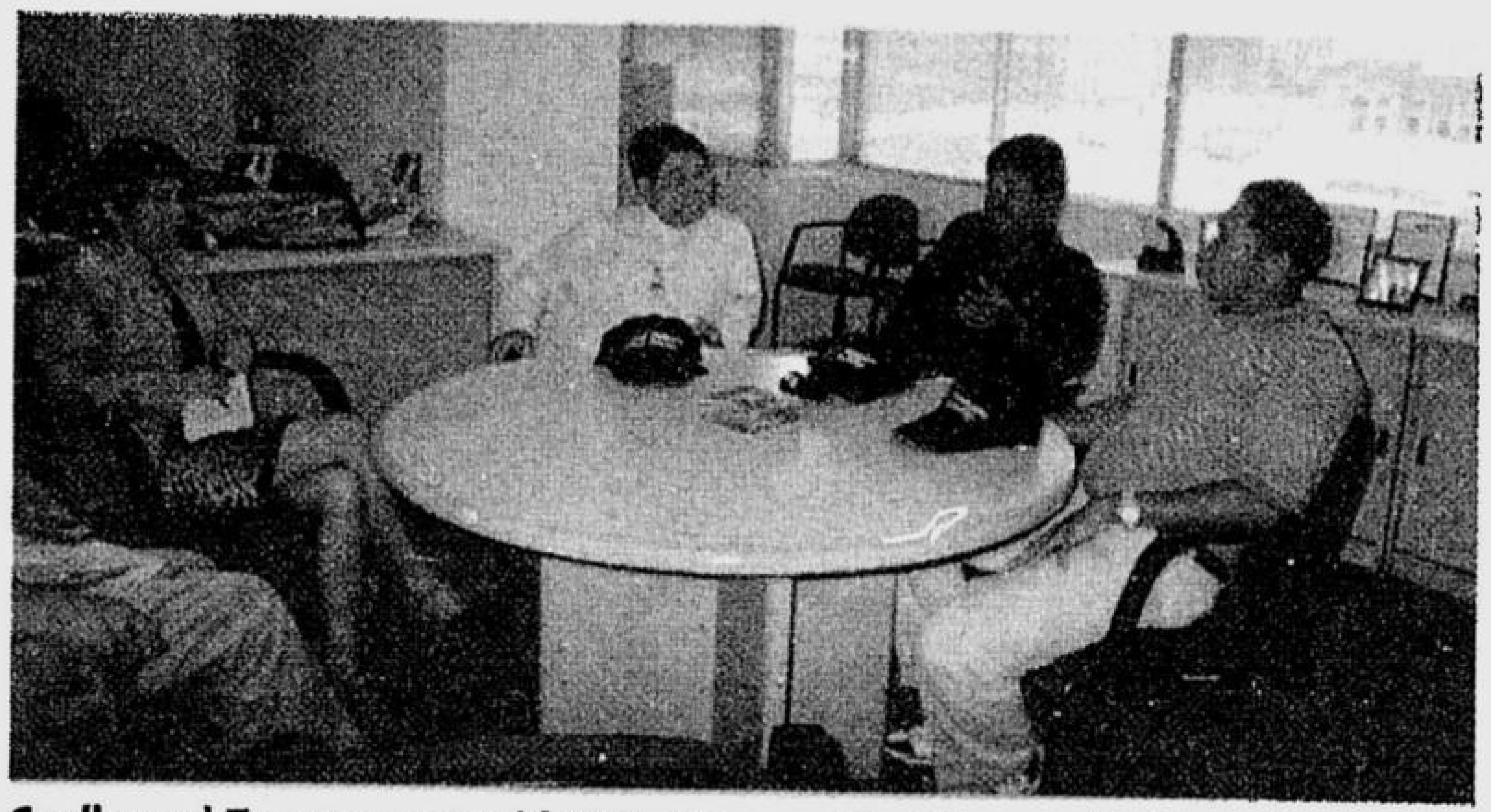
In recognition of their big effort in Malaysia, national flag carrier Philippine Airlines agreed to fly them to Japan on business class.

"Give it your best shot, remember your fighting not just for yourselves but for the country," was the message given by Felix Cruz, PAL vice president for marketing, when the RP duo paid him a visit.

Edgar See is providing additional support through his Pisanti company, maker of the popular golf apparel.

China emerged top qualifier, one-shot ahead of Malaysia and Norway.

Ranged against the outright finalists, these countries would indeed pale in comparison.



Cuello and Zarate meet with PAL vice president for marketing Felix Cruz and Gigi Ezequiel of the airline's advertising and promotions division.

SEE

Other pairs expected to give the Woods-Duval dream combine a run for the $1 million top purse are South Africa's Ernie Els and Retief Goosen, Spain's Sergio Garcia and Miguel Angel Jimenez and Australia's Adam Scott and Aaron Baddeley.

The Woods-Duval tandem is deemed capable of joining two other illustrious American duos which have eight World Cup titles among themselves in 45 years of competition.

Arnold Palmer combined with fellow all-time great Jack Nicklaus to give US. the championships in 1963-64 and 66-67, while Fred Couples partnered with Davis Love III in ruling the event from 1992-95.

Woods, of course, has another championship in 1999 when he teamed up with Mark O' Meara.

Formerly known as the World Cup of Golf, the tournament had visited 14 countries, including the Philippines, since its birth in 1955.

The Philippines has never contended for the team crown although the now-retired Rudy Labares came close to the individual plum when he took second place in the 1977 edition at Wack Wack.

Cuello and Zarate are harboring no illusions of surpassing Labares' feat, what they are aiming at is a decent finish. *RL*

A Fil-Am tourney like no other

MANAGING a record field in a golf tournament entails a lot of meticulous planning, careful scheduling and systematic scoring. Organizers of the 52nd Fil-Am Men's International Golf Tournament know these fully well and they have made sure that everything will be in order come the Dec. 3-8 affair in Baguio City.

BEDI

First, they hired two of the best men in the tournament business—Vince Villafuerte and Buddy Resurrecion.

Second, they enlisted the services of Information Professionals Inc.(IPI) to take charge of the computerized scoring.

Third, they reduced the number of participants from 920 to a 'manageable' 620 even if it meant a huge deduction in entry fees.

Shean Bedi, the Fil-Am's overall coordinator, said they are sparing no effort, and expenses, to make this year's edition the best ever regardless of the projected romp of powerhouse CAP-Southwoods.

Gunning for its third straight championship, CAP Southwoods will be parading two-time national amateur champion Angelo Que, former national amateur titlist Artemio Murakami, Jerome Delariarte, Juami Rocha, Hanson So, Toru Nakajima, Montito Garcia and Junjun Plana.

This early, the managers of the twin venues—Camp John Hay and Baguio Country Club—have ensured the course's tip-top condition for the world's biggest amateur tournament according to Guinness.

CJH manager Heiner Maulbecker and BCC manager Anthony de Leon, who'll serve as co-chairmen, said the decision to trim the field was arrived at to ensure quality play and provide more fun and fellowship among the players in the 72-hole tournament presented by Smart Communications and Ericsson.

The par-69, 5,001-yard CJH had in fact renovated hole No. 6, which would be opened for tournament play for the first time.

Really, organizers have all bases covered this year. They could only pray that the other capable teams like Mizuno Master Sports, Master Sports-St' Lukes, Capitol Hills and Federation League titlist Forest Hills would give Southwoods quality competition. *RL*

TOURNAMENT REVIEW

Sta. Elena dominates WGAP final leg

STA. ELENA dominated the eighth and final leg of the Callaway-sponsored Women's Golf Association of the Philippines circuit at its homecourse recently to lead the four teams which will vie for overall honors next month.

Sta. Elena, the circuit's defending overall champion, won two of the three division honors to emerge as the eliminations topnotcher in runaway fashion.

Also making it to the three-day grand finals where the permanent overall championship trophy designed by noted artist Impy Pilapil will be a stake are Riviera, Villamor and Alabang.

There will be three different courses for the finals with each team fielding tandems in aggregate, scramble, bestball and alternate shots.

The team of Alice Jose, Carina Ricamonte, Venice Godio and Rio Co won the Class A plum for Sta. Elena with 150 points, beating Canlubang by four with Alabang coming in third eight points behind.

Another Sta. Elena team made up of Len Yaptangco, Lucy Sy, Abby Tayao and Lily Chan overpowered a Navy squad by 20 and Riviera by 19. Alabang's victory in Class C behind the efforts of Melanie Villar, Tina Javellana, Elit Pacho and Ofie Carlos proved crucial in their clinching the last berth in the grand finals.

Gaddi-Garcia tops Alabang's Asga Cup

THE tandem of lawyer-member Ed Gaddi and his guest partner Frankie Garcia banked on a strong first day effort to clinch the overall team title in the Globe Telecoms-sponsored Alabang Senior Golfers Association (ASGA) Cup at the Alabang Country Club course recently.

Gaddi and Garcia tallied 88 points in the first round then followed it up with an 83 for a 36-hole aggregate of 171, winning by four points over Bert Limjuco and Jun Peralta with the favored pair of Freddie Oliveros-Danny Pizarro (166) claiming third place.

Peralta went home with the overall individual net title with the overall individual gross going to former national seniors champion Alex Montelibano.

Sponsorships provided by Fortune Tobacco, Asga member Haji Tabusalla of Indonesia, Hans Brumann of Brumann Jewellers, Volvo Cars, Nestle Philippines, Weinstein Pianos and Sharexchange enabled organizers to give away a prize package of more than P600,000 for the field of 144 players or 72 teams.

Montelibano was runaway winner in the gross category, finishing nine ahead of Riviera president Danny Pizarro.

Gabriel, Hijada rule Double 10 tilt at Muni

ATILANO Gabriel and Do Hijada fired similar net 57s in winning their respective divisions in the Club Intramuros grand senior golfers' Double 10 tournament recently at their home course.

Hijada mastered the short but hazard-laden course with a gross of three-over-par 66 for a net 57 that gave him a seven-stroke win in Group I (55-59 years).

Gabriel, playing in Group IV (70 and above), had a more convincing win with his gross 75-net57 effort as he finished 12 ahead of Ben Santiago.

Lou Atienza tallied a net 61 then nipped Benny Cuason in the countback for Group II (60-64 yrs) honors while Jun Peralta prevailed by three over Naning Tabalba in Group III (65-69 yrs.).

The 18-hole event is presented by the Embassy of Republic of China led by his excellency Ambassador Benjamin Lu with the support of Ambassador Juan Carlo Escalona of the Embassy of the Republic of Panama and the City of Paranaque led by Mayor Joey Marquez, vice mayor Jun Bernabe, administrator Lito Abad and councilors Pablo Gabriel, Jimmy Neri, Gus Tambunting, Jovan Esplana and Bert Buenavista.

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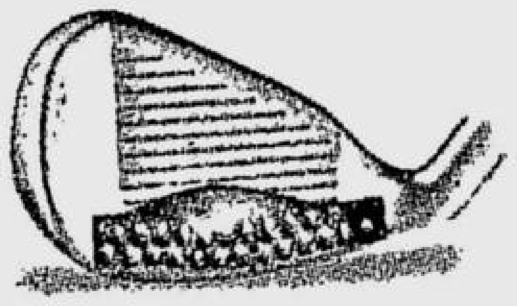

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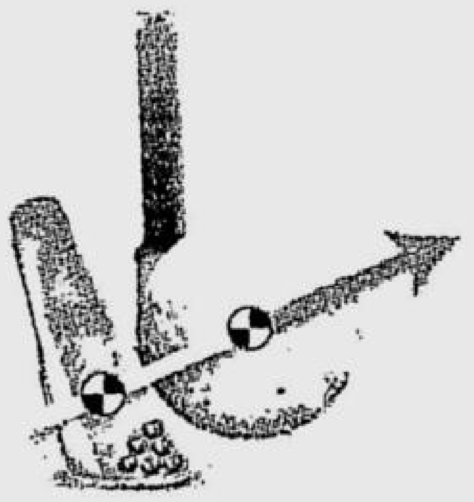

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